Hafa Adai!

Data gathering for BH/NCD pilot survey halfway done. **PAGE 2**
Bill funding CNMI Drug Court now law. **PAGE 3**

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'Planning' agency within govt eyed

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Palacios

Senate Vice President Arnold Palacios (R-Saipan) disclosed on Wednesday he is working on a framework, along with other members of the Senate, to create a "planning" department, or office, within the government.

Palacios disclosed this after hearings with department heads on how to address infrastructure impacts from ongoing development concluded Wednesday.

"I've been in the framework of putting together an office of planning or a department of planning, which we used to have in this government but it got somehow

See AGENCY on Page 4

NWS: Extreme drought expanding and worsening across Micronesia

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

» CNMI still below normal rainfall

Although there have been periods of rains in much of the CNMI during the past weeks, levels of rainfall are still below normal and extreme drought is expanding and worsening across Micronesia, according to the National Weather Service.

In an updated drought information statement released yesterday, NWS said that the experimental drought assessment of the U.S. Drought Monitor indicates that many locations across Micronesia are now in an extreme

See NWS on Page 4

'PSS Trade Fair widens our choices'

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Yesterday's inaugural Trade Fair organized by the Public School System widened the choices of Oneil Magno and Jerico Montenejo. They said the event would help them how to decide and plan their future.

The two Marianas High School sophomores along with their classmate Corbin Jay Bigley Rife were among the close to 100 students who attended the event at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multipurpose Center in Susupe.

"The fair is beneficial for us students since it gives us a wide per-

See PSS on Page 4

JON PEREZ

Students learned from various representatives that joined yesterday's Public School System Trade Fair about what their company is all about and what they do.

INSIDE

LOCAL

Sister Remedios Early Childhood Development Center and Mount Carmel School approved a historic partnership that will result in the physical relocation of SRECDC to the MCS campus.

» PAGE 12

LOCAL

The Building Safety Code Division has determined the Lower Base Animal Shelter is structurally unsafe and has ordered its closure no later than March 30, 2016.

» PAGE 20

LIFE & STYLE

The Marianas High School POLKSAI Chamorro Club swept the 2016 Inacha'igen Fino Chamorro Language Competition in Guam.

» PAGE 24

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Local

Data gathering for BH/NCD pilot survey halfway done

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Data gathering for the pilot, hybrid health survey that has been in the works since early this year, is now halfway finished.

According to the CNMI Department of Commerce, they will be conducting the field data collection for the Behavioral Health/Non-Communicable Disease Hybrid Survey until the end of March.

They are now 42 percent done with the collection of needed data on Saipan, 55 percent on Tinian, and 63 percent on Rota.

The sample size of the survey is 900 on Saipan and 130 each for Rota and Tinian. There are about 10 data collectors on Saipan, two on Tinian, and three on Rota.

Commerce, who is partnering with the Division of Public Health for the project, said that they are looking at May for the completion of the project, after their coding and data entry, data processing and tabulation phase.

The department is seeking the cooperation, understanding, and patience of the residents as they aim to complete the survey.

"We cannot do this without the help of the community and their cooperation. We ask humbly that when our enumerators come by, take some time out of their busy lives to assist us," Commerce Secretary Mark Rabauliman said.

He noted that the survey will be instrumental in the future health-related endeavors in the CNMI.

"The end result of this survey is going to really help the policy makers, the decisions makers and also give us a picture of the state of our health in the CNMI as a whole," Rabauliman said.

Rabauliman also stressed the importance of the survey to the rest of the Micronesia region as well.

"This is a combination of two types of surveys. To be quite frank, it's a first of its kind," Rabauliman said, "We're taking the lead on it that's why I emphasize the help of the community. From this, they'll take it to other areas of the Micronesian area," Rabauliman said.

The survey takes questions from both the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the World Health Organization for the

See DATA on Page 4

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Bill funding CNMI Drug Court now law

DENNIS B. CHAN

Chief Justice Alexander Castro speaks at an event yesterday where Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed a bill allocating funding to the CNMI Drug Court.

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed a bill yesterday to fund the CNMI Drug Court an amount of $150,000, $125,000 of which will be allocated to drug court personnel.

Introduced by Rep. Antonio Sablan (Ind-Saipan) and sponsored by Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan), the drug court bill passed both houses of the Legislature this month, and will allow the CNMI, once the drug court is implemented, to join Guam and the rest of U.S. mainland, all of which have drug courts, in a collaborative effort to address the devastating effects that drug crime has had on CNMI families and the community.

"This is another step closer to our goal. There is going to be some trial and error but we're moving forward," Torres said at a signing event yesterday. "It is our obligation as the administration to block drugs from entering our islands.

Torres also noted that x-rays for the CNMI Division of Customs will arrive next week, and pointed to new appropriations for the funding of two drug canines in the coming months to sniff out crime in the community and schools. One of Rota's schools was reportedly found to have illicit drugs on campus this week.

"The drug court will align us with other jurisdictions who have drug courts," said Superior Court Associate Judge David Wiseman. "Drug court is a team effort. It's a whole community effort in getting this started.

"Treatment, enforcement, the Judiciary, the Legislature, and Executive [branch] are all factors," he added. "This is a community that needs it. You can see the effects [drugs has on our community]. Once the [drug court] gets going, it's not just for any addict. It's a qualifying process.

"I'm elated that this'll be a legacy for [the judiciary] to leave," said Wiseman, who will be retiring in April.

"We know the problems, we know what they are," said CNMI Attorney General Edward Manibusan. "These are baby steps and we're moving forward in terms of funding."

Chief Justice Alexander Castro expressed his sentiments over the many crimes committed in his time as a judge. "Majority of domestic violence cases and many other crimes are drug related. You can see that we have a high rate of recidivism. [The drug court] will make a difference."

Castro also spoke to the beginning stages of this effort to from the judiciary to help the community. "Judge Wiseman and I sat down to decide what we wanted to do. Wiseman went out and invited [retired Judge Steve Hansen] to help us. This is one of the happiest days of my life, not just as a judge but [also] as a prosecutor. This is our greatest collaboration with the government to fight illicit drugs."

"There will be error but don't lose faith," said Hansen, a retired judge from Utah who has volunteered his efforts on behalf of the Church of Jesus Christ and Latter Day Saints. "Stay on course. You will see the results. If it's run properly...and I am very confident in your judiciary, you'll be satisfied with the results."

Torres also thanked members of the House of Representatives, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., and Hansen for their continued support and commitment to putting the drug court plans into action.

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NEW DEPUTY MARSHAL FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Sophia Geisinger, third from left, poses for a group photo after she took oath before Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman as Judiciary's newest deputy marshal yesterday. Also in the photo, from left, deputy director for Enforcement and Court Security Ursula Lifoifoi-Aldan, chief marshal Joseph Ogo Jr., Sophia's son, Enzo Reyes, her parents Mernie and Michael Geisinger, and relative Clare Moses.

Igisomar: Zone off areas for heritage, monuments

Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) hopes that future land use planning will set aside areas for Chamorro and Carolinian cultural monuments.

"We must come together and set aside a place, a monument for us to celebrate our heritage and where we came from and where we are heading," Igisomar told *Saipan Tribune*. "For example, if the land area in front of Kristo Rai Church is available, we can turn it into a ground for a monument."

"We set aside huge set of lands for the Japanese monument, Sugar King Park," added Sen. Arnold Palacios (R-Saipan). "Where is the Chamolinian park? Where is the Latte park?

During a Saipan local delegation hearing on Mario Taitano's appointment to the Zoning Board, Igisomar asked that the Zoning office come back to the Legislature and present their "challenges, best practices, and successes" but also emphasized "land use planning."

"Start zoning off areas," Igisomar told *Saipan Tribune*. "Once businesses come up like Best Sunshine [the Saipan casino], they are going to be encroaching. We need to now make a decision on which areas we should at least protect."

"We are not saying 'where.' We are saying you are the frontline, you are the zoning administration. Work with the governor's office, work with the Legislature and let's identify. Let's work together." ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

Couple fights at Aging Office

Police arrested on Wednesday night an employee of Aging Office for allegedly slapping and splashing a cup of water on the face of his wife.

The incident happened at the Aging Office in Chinatown last Feb. 29, according to police detective Daniel Maliuyaf.

At a hearing yesterday, Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo imposed a $1,250 cash bail and appointed assistant public defender Michael Sato as counsel for defendant Anthony Jack Ogumoro.

Ogumoro, 39, is facing charges of assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

Preliminary hearing will be on March 23 at 9am.

Detective Maliuyaf stated in his report that a police officer was dispatched to the Aging Office last Feb. 29 after receiving a call about a disturbance.

Before the officer arrived at the scene, Ogumoro and his wife, who is also a volunteer at the Aging Office, already left the area.

Based on the officer's review on the video surveillance footage, Ogumoro was standing at a table and writing something on a paper.

Ogumoro later picked up a trashcan cover near the front entrance door and attempted to swing it at his wife.

Ogumoro instead used his left hand in slapping the face of his wife. He walked out of the front door but the wife stood at the door.

The defendant splashed what appeared to be a cup of water on the wife's face.

A witness told the officer that prior to the incident, the wife asked Ogumoro why he didn't answer his phone and later asked who was going to take him.

The witness said Ogumoro picked up a wooden cover of the trashcan, then struck his wife with his hand. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

PSS

From Page 1

spective of what the island has to offer in terms of career choices. It also serves as a motivation for us to get the job that interests us. It is better to look for a job that you are passionate about," said Montenejo.

Oneil added that planning ahead your career path is also a plus factor. "It is good to start early with your decisions because if you decide late you will have lesser opportunities in getting the job that you deserve."

And that's what Chris Tenorio and the PSS wanted to achieve with the Trade Fair, to expose students to various opportunities and available careers in the trade industry in the CNMI.

"We just want to show them that there are more career opportunities in other lucrative fields out there aside from working in hotels and restaurants. We want to create a link to expose them to create and take their own paths," said Tenorio, the PSS Cooperative Education program manager.

Tenorio said that even the U.S. is also changing its educational system and has been starting to pump more money into the trade industry.

"Not everyone is meant for college but everyone deserves an education and to learn things. The learning process never ends. It does not stop when we get that diploma," added Tenorio.

PSS Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan said they are hopeful that students who attended the Trade Fair would go home thinking of what career path they would take.

"We plan to make this an annual event and expand it. It's geared to help, specially the juniors and seniors, to choose their careers. We decided to invite and focus on companies that are in the trade industry since this is the job pool market that is currently needed in the CNMI," said Sablan.

She added the CNMI would be needing more plumbers, master masons, construction managers, electricians, and air-condition technicians in the future with all the development that is happening right now.

"If we don't expose them to the trades they won't know anything about it. It is good for them to learn and get the training that is needed then get a job in one of the companies that we invited here," Sablan said.

GHD Engineering employees Ted Babauta and Rufin Inos Jr. said it was nice to talk to students about what they do.

"We are always active in school events like this and tell them what we do and about the engineering practice," said Babauta.

"We are an architectural and engineering design firm. We wanted to expose these kids to our chosen field so they would keep their options open," added Inos.

G4S, Hawaiian Rock, CTSI, Hyatt Regency Saipan, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., the Northern Marianas Trades Institute, Saipan Shipping, Gree, GHD Engineering, and Joeten are some of the companies which had representatives talking to students at the PSS Trade Fair.

NWS

From Page 1

drought or drought 3 of 4 levels.

"Increasingly dry weather is taking hold across much of Micronesia. Below normal rainfall is already affecting the Mariana Islands, the Republic of Palau, Yap and Chuuk States in the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands," NWS said.

"There could be a slightly wet month or two from now through late spring 2016, but overall conditions will be much drier than normal as 2016 progresses," it added.

Areas such as FSM and RMI have declared state of emergencies due to the drought conditions and its impacts.

Koror and Babeldaob in Palau and the states of Yap and Pohnpei in FSM are included in areas under drought level 3 of 4.

For the CNMI, NWS noted that rainfall has been well below normal the past few months and will continue for the next several months.

"Although rainfall has been near normal since March 1, conditions remain very dry with computer models indicating below normal rainfall over the next weeks," NWS said.

During the first half of March, NWS records that Rota received 1.25 of 3.05 inches of average monthly rain, Tinian 1.30 0f 2.40 inches, and Saipan, 1.16 of 1.93 inches.

"Water supplies need to be monitored very closely and water conservation is highly encouraged. Drying and yellowing of food crops and vegetation will become much worse and grass fires will increase. Water wells on Saipan could see an increase in salinity as the drought progresses," NWS said.

NWS said that computer models indicate that only a quarter inch to a half inch of rain will fall through the next 10 days on Rota, Tinian, and Saipan, while the far Northern Islands will be better off such as areas near Pagan which could receive one inch of rainfall during the next 10 days.

"Locally higher amounts are possible and catchment equipment should be maintained in good working order," NWS said, "Longer range models indicate rainfall will be much lower than normal through the next month or two at least."

The drought follows one of the strongest El Nino events in recorded history that remains entrenched across the equatorial Pacific Ocean.

"The El Nino event has peaked and is slowly weakening for the Pacific Region," NWS said, "Climate model projections indicate with high confidence that the pattern will persist through late spring, then weaken to ENSO-neutral by the summer months and possibly transition to La Nina status late in the year."

AGENCY

From Page 1

taken out," said Palacios in an interview in his office.

"We are glad that the [Coastal Resources Management] major siting process has a semblance of consolidating all the different agencies together," he said. "This is the only process that we have… Otherwise, this one is doing this, and this one is doing that, and it's contradicting."

During a hearing with local utility on Tuesday, senators learned off apparent miscommunication within the agency. "Somebody signed off on a permit and the sewer guy is saying, 'We didn't know about this development,'" Palacios said. "That's telling in and of itself. We need to have a lot more coordination" and "some sort of planning function within our government."

Palacios also said the Senate is looking at also calling in the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, the Historic Preservation Office, and other offices that are part of the regulatory agency scheme. He added he would be brainstorming with other senators on future hearings, and added he would task their counsel and legal aides for reports "consolidating all the [information] we got" from the hearings and possibly "send it to the Executive Branch."

'Not development: regression'

Palacios, who authored a amendment to local law last year to allow Best Sunshine International, Ltd. to set up its temporary casino within 200 feet of playgrounds, parks, churches, and other establishments so that the casino project could move forward in the T Galleria, questions how development will impact the "quality of life."

In an interview Monday, before the hearings started, Palacios said that the infrastructure being built "caters to a lot of the transient population."

"And we don't have the infrastructure or the space to accompany everybody, inclusive of the community, that is here. And it starts deteriorating the quality of life."

"That's not development," he added. "That's regression."

Palacios said at some point in time the CNMI needs to "step back" and look at development in cumulative benefits and impacts and ask if the CNMI improved its quality of life, "or did it cost us?"

Palacios used the Philippines as an example, saying that at one time the country had many, many visitors and traffic that created stress for the local population, which sacrificed the quality of life for commerce.

"Development is good. Make no mistake about it. But we want to make sure we do it right. We want to make sure we pay attention to all the other peripheral issues not just the glitter."

The extinct local garment industry, for one, started at five garment factories on island, blossoming into 10, then 20, then well over 30 factories. "When we had it at five to 10, it was manageable," Palacios said. "Then all of the system started breaking down. Water was an issue. We had 30,000 to 40,000 non-transient, but year-round population of workers staying on Saipan. That became an issue…While we generate $60 million to $70 million in potential revenues from that industry, we ask ourselves, was the quality of life much better? No. When it was time for them to pull out, they just pulled out," Palacios added.

DATA

From Page 2

NCD part of the survey, making it hybrid.

DPH earlier said that an epidemiologist will assist with the analysis and will analyze the data and develop a report. They will use the information collected to tailor programs for the CNMI.

They will also be planning on conducting the survey consistently every three, four, or five years so that they will be able to track data overtime and know whether things are getting better or worse, or certain problems are emerging in the Commonwealth's health.

Dela Cruz continues support of MMAC

The Marianas March Against Cancer is an annual event that is close to the hearts of the family of Dr. Ignacio Dela Cruz, D.V.M., since his mother and brother fell victim to the disease that has claimed a lot of lives here in the Commonwealth.

"My mother and brother died of cancer. We were hoping that our mom would survive it but she passed away," said Dela Cruz, whose mother and brother died of pancreatic and prostate cancer, respectively.

The Dela Cruz, along with his wife Victoria and their children, donated $1,500 to the 2016 MMAC set on May 13 and 14 at the Hopwood Junior High School field. The check presentation was held yesterday at the Commonwealth Cancer Association's office in Middle Road.

"Whenever we are needed, we are always ready to help out in any way that we can. I just wish we could have given a bigger amount," added Dela Cruz, whose family has been supporting various community events and fundraising activities.

Geri C. Dela Cruz, the 2016 MMAC overall chair, thanked the Dela Cruz family's donation saying that it wasn't the first time that they had done it.

"The 2016 MMAC committee is thankful with their donation. People in the community, like Dr. Dela Cruz and his family, that are doing their best in supporting causes like this, that speaks a lot of how we help each other," said Geri Dela Cruz.

"We are also thankful for the MMAC committee members and CCA officials who always find time to come in meetings amidst their busy schedule

CCA president Bo Palacios said the donation by Dela Cruz's family would go a long way in supporting their events and other programs that promote awareness as well as providing information and hope either to cancer patients, survivors, or their families.

"All funds that goes to CCA are utilized, every centavo of it, to various programs that help cancer patients and educate people about cancer. In April, there are two dozen events that are dedicated in raising awareness on oral cancer," Palacios said.

Nola Hix, a 2016 MMAC committee member, added that a lot of people had been affected by cancer in their lives. "In one way or another we are also survivors. We are survivors since we might have lost either relatives or friends to cancer." ***(Jon Perez)***

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ENERGY WISE

Climate change and the deterioration of our oceans

By PHILIP YORIO
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The argument of climate change has been around now for over 10 years, whether you believe in it or not the facts are still stacking up that this is real and a real problem for us all. The Chamorro people of the Marianas have a kindred relationship with the ocean. The Marianas has been inhabited since around 2000 BC. The Chamorro people being excellent seamen derived a lot of their diet from the sea. The ocean has been a major part of the Chamorro culture. But our oceans are in trouble as the Earth is heating up, putting extreme stresses on our oceans.

On October 3rd of last year an international panel of marine scientists published a disturbing report on the results from the latest International Program on the State of the Ocean report. The report stated that the ocean is absorbing much of the warming and unprecedented levels of carbon dioxide and warned that the cumulative impact of this with other ocean stressors is far graver than previous estimates. Decreasing oxygen levels in the ocean is being caused by climate change.

Of the three major concerns affecting our oceans today is **De-oxygenation**: the evidence is accumulating that the oxygen inventory of the ocean is progressively declining at an accumulating rate. **Acidification**: If current levels of CO2 release continue we can expect extremely serious consequences for ocean life, and in turn food and coastal protection and **Warming**: As made clear by the panel, the ocean is taking the brunt of warming in the climate system. Like many of us who have been diving in various places around the world the bleaching and dying of our coral reefs is increasing.

Our glaciers and Artic ice shelves are melting at alarming rates the seas are rising and in areas like Kiribati and Tuvalu in the South Pacific. These islands could disappear within our lifetime. If you want to see some really disturbing pictures go to the NASA site on climate change on the Internet, they have one picture of the retreat of the Peterson Glacier in Alaska in 1917 and one taken at the same lace in 2005. It has literally disappeared. There is another really good 60-second time lapse video on You Tube that NASA just put out that shows how the Earth has heated up over the last 115 years, believe it or not 115 years in 60 seconds that really will awaken you to the trouble that our Mother Earth is in.

With all of the renewable energy technology that we have now—solar energy, wind energy, and hydro energy—I have no understanding why we as a civilization continue to kill our planet. Even here in the Marianas we must find better ways to scale back our use on fossil fuel and the dangerous emissions our power plants produce and join the movement of the natural transformation of energy from fossil to renewable energy. We need to protect our Earth and our island so our future generations can experience this beautiful island and our Mother Earth for many, many generations to come. It truly is in our hands now. Even our most beloved Pope Francis said in a biography that I recently read that we must be protectors of our Earth that the Lord has entrusted us with. Powerful words indeed!

CONTROBUTED PHOTO
Philip Yorio is the general manager of Micronesia Renewable Energy, Inc.-CNMI.

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Northern Marianas College
PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH

Northern Marianas College is currently accepting applications for the position of President. The President of the Northern Marianas College serves as the chief executive officer for the Board of Regents and oversees a multi-campus college system located on three separate islands (Saipan, main campus; Rota and Tinian).

Northern Marianas College is a Land Grant Institution that is accredited by the Senior College and University Commission of the Western Association for Schools and Colleges. Founded in 1981, its focus continues to be ensuring student success and meeting the higher education and vocational training needs of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The institution has developed a comprehensive set of academic programs and services that address the social, cultural and economic development needs of its island communities.

Today, approximately 1,100 students are enrolled in credit programs that lead to an associate or bachelor's degree in the following areas: education, business, liberal arts, natural resource management, nursing, business administration, criminal justice, and hospitality management. The College also offers many non-credit, continuing education courses that are offered in various formats (online, hybrid, short-term, accelerated, etc.) throughout the year.

The President will report to the Board of Regents and will be expected to carry out the mission and vision of the College:

Mission: Northern Marianas College, through its commitment to student learning, provides high quality, affordable and accessible educational programs and services for the individual and people of the Commonwealth.

Vision: Northern Marianas College will serve as the engine to drive the economic growth and the social and cultural vitality of the Commonwealth.

Minimum Qualifications
- Earned doctorate degree from a U.S. accredited university or foreign equivalent;
- Seven (7) years of executive level management experience in an institution of higher education of which five (5) years are continuous, or a combination of at least seven (7) years of executive level management including post-secondary education teaching experience;
- Experience working in a multicultural environment, preferably in the Pacific region and in the Northern Mariana Islands;
- Substantiated experience in accreditation processes, personnel management, budget development and presentation, strategic planning and institutional assessment, fundraising, mediation, and team building; and
- Demonstrated knowledge of federal programs and grants application to higher education.

The salary for the position is $80,000 to $100,000 per annum plus benefits. Applicants with degrees from non-U.S. accredited institutions are responsible for providing an official evaluation of their degrees from an acceptable credential evaluation service to determine U.S. equivalency.

Applicants should include a curriculum vitae indicating their competences in Organizational Strategy, Resource Management, Communication, Collaboration, College Advocacy, and Professionalism; official transcripts; list of published journal work or scholarly research; three personal and three professional references (complete with name, title, address, phone/email contact); and four letters of professional recommendations specific to this position. Complete application packages and documents should be sent by certified priority mail and must be received by the closing date of April 15, 2016 for full consideration, to:

Ms. Cynthia I. Deleon Guerrero
Chairperson, Presidential Search Committee
Northern Marianas College (Attention: Human Resources Office)
P.O. Box 501250, Saipan, MP 96950

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas College that equal opportunity be given to all qualified applicants without regard to age, race, gender, marital status, place of origin, religion, disability status, political affiliation, family relationship, or genetic information (GINA). The College is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The College reserves the option to extend the closing date. For more information about this position announcement and about the College, visit www.marianas.edu.

April targeted for airport master concession RFPs

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is targeting next month to advertise requests for proposals for their master concession plan for the three airports in the Commonwealth.

According to CPA executive director MaryAnn Lizama, they are trying to shoot for the end of April to put out RFPs as she also targets to submit a draft master concession plan to the board.

"I think we'll be able to have a draft [master concession plan] presented to the board hopefully by the next meeting," Lizama said.

Last November, the master concession agreement held by DFS Saipan expired and those who currently operate at the airport are on a month-to-month basis.

Prior to the expiry, the CPA board voted in September to bid out a successive master concession of up to 20 years.

CPA's master concession agreement grants the winning bidder the right to operate facilities at the ports that sell duty-free merchandise.

Lizama said they've been moving along with the plan and has been working diligently to make sure every procedure is followed.

Lizama

CPA is working with their consultant, Ricondo and Associates, regarding the master concession plan.

"We have an internal team that's been working closely with our consultant and all the data that needs to be collected, the team provides, feedback the team provides, anything else that they need. We have to give us much data as we can to cover all grounds," Lizama said.

"We've been working diligently because this is the first that we've done this. We want to make sure this is done right," she added.

The plan will also cover Tinian and Rota airports.

"What it's going to do is, at a smaller scale, it will mirror [Saipan]," Lizama said.

Through Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' signing into law last November, Public Law 19-21, CPA was authorized to grant master concession agreements "for each point of entry" on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

The new law notes that it is important for "national or international concessionaires" to open concessions on Tinian and Rota" and that "exclusive island concession opportunities will generate additional revenue for CPA, stimulate the economies of Tinian and Rota, and provide additional retail options for visiting passengers."

The law amended the definition of a "master concession" in the CNMI to grant "separate" master concession agreements for Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, respectively.

During their last board meeting earlier this month, the CPA Board of Directors approved a change order for the contract of Ricondo.

"The change order covered the additional professional services that we tasked Ricondo.

Changer order No. 2 will increase the scope of work of Ricondo from its current contract and includes among others a departure concourse development analysis, negotiations with the successful bidder, and preparation of the disadvantaged business enterprise program.

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Torres wants lawsuit vs E-Land returned to local court

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Attorney Vincent DLG. Torres is requesting the federal court to transfer back to Superior Court his lawsuit against E-Land World Co. Ltd., Suwaso Corp., Micronesia Resort Inc., and some of its current and former directors and employees.

Torres, through counsel William M. Fitzgerald, moved the U.S. District Court for the NMI to remand the case back to the Superior Court on the grounds that E-Land and co-defendants have failed to prove the existence of federal jurisdiction.

Fitzgerald said nothing in the purchase and sales agreement could conceivably affect Torres' lawsuit he filed in Superior Court.

Torres assisted a family friend, Yusuke Fumoto, and Micronesian Resort Inc., a subsidiary of E-Land World Ltd., in effectuating the purchase and sales agreement.

The purchase and sales agreement transferred Fumoto's 85 percent interest to Micronesian Resort Inc.

Fitzgerald said Torres' complaint makes no claim under the contract, the contract is fully integrated, and nothing in the contract gives Torres any rights or benefits.

Fitzgerald said the unfulfilled promises Torres complains about were made separate and apart from the agreement and the agreement, therefore, can have no effect on the case.

He said the defendants have failed to produce a single case in which a non-signatory to a purchase and sales agreement, which specifically excludes non-signatories from the benefits and obligations of the agreement was compelled to arbitrate tort claims.

Fitzgerald said the defendants have failed to prove that the agreement falls under the New York Convention.

He said for an agreement to fall under the New York Convention, there must be an agreement in writing to arbitrate the dispute.

Here, Fitzgerald said, Torres did not agree to arbitrate since he is a non-signatory and the agreement itself excludes him from compelling arbitration or being obligated to arbitrate.

He said a party cannot be required to submit to arbitration any dispute which he has not agreed to submit.

He said the defendants have failed to raise a conceivable argument that the arbitration clause in question will impact the disposition of Torres' case.

He said if Torres was suing in the CNMI court for breach of contract, then they would readily agree that the agreement would impact the disposition of the case.

"At no place in the complaint however, does Vince [Torres] claim that the contract has been breached," Fitzgerald said.

Torres is suing the defendants for allegedly failing to provide a proper accounting, embarking upon a scheme to misappropriate business opportunities and funds, and negotiating loans over $5 million without proper authorization. The case was originally filed in Superior Court.

The defendants moved to transfer the lawsuit to the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

The defendants are asking the federal court to compel all his claims to arbitration before the American Arbitration Association.

E-Land World Co. Ltd., Micronesia Resort Inc., Suwaso Corp., and Kwang Won Seo, through counsel Richard W. Pierce, said the arbitrator should decide any dispute on Torres' claims.

Pierce asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to dismiss Torres' lawsuit in its entirety.

In the alternative, Pierce said, the court should stay the lawsuit pending the resolution of the arbitral proceedings, if any, brought before the American Arbitration Association.

Pierce recently filed the corporate disclosure statements for his clients—E-Land World Co. Ltd., Micronesia Resort Inc., and Suwaso Corp.

According to Pierce, E-Land World Co. Ltd. has no parent corporation.

Pierce said the Micronesia Resort Inc. is owned by non-party E-Land Park Ltd. and by Sompo Japan Nipponkoa Insurance Inc.

He disclosed that E-Land Park Ltd. owns a majority of Micronesia Resort Inc.'s shares, while Sompo Japan Nipponkoa Insurance Inc. owns the minority remainder of Micronesia Resort Inc.'s shares.

Pierce said Suwaso Corp. is owned by Micronesia Resort Inc. and by Torres and a non-party individual.

Pierce said the Micronesia Resort Inc. owns majority of Suwaso shares, while Torres and a non-party individual are the other shareholders of record.

Man in unauthorized opening of mail packages gets probation for two years

A man who pleaded guilty over the stealing of two Apple iPads and two Apple iPhones from the mail, was sentenced yesterday in federal court to two years of probation.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona noted that defendant Randy A. Sablan immediately took responsibility by admitting to the crime.

Manglona ordered the 35-year-old Sablan to perform 50 hours of community work service, pay $119.99 in restitution to one victim, and pay a $25 special assessment fee.

The judge urged Sablan to consider speaking to students or other members in the community about his experience in using methamphetamine or "ice."

Manglona said she was actually thinking of imposing only one year of probation, but decided to impose two years of probation because of defendant having a drug issue.

Manglona asked Sablan to encourage anyone close to him that is using "ice" to bring that person to drug counseling.

Manglona told Sablan that he better not lose his job.

Sablan is currently working at Best Sunshine International, Ltd.

Manglona dismissed the remaining charges as part of the plea agreement.

Before the sentence was handed down, Sablan apologized to the court for the crime that he committed. He said he brought shame to his family.

"I'm sorry, it will not happen again," he said.

Assistant U.S. attorney Russell Lorfing, counsel for the U.S. government, said they joined the U.S. Probation's recommendation that there is no need to impose incarceration on Sablan.

Lorfing said a two-year probation is "sufficient" but "not greater than necessary" to comply with the purposes of sentencing.

Attorney Benjamin Petersburg, counsel for Sablan, also recommended a probation sentence.

"He is a family man, and currently employed," Petersburg said, adding that defendant's conduct in this case was due to his involvement in "ice."

Attorney Bruce Berline, Petersburg's co-counsel for Sablan, in court documents said "ice" changed Sablan's behavior and brought him into contact with users, dealers, and other bad influences.

Berline said Sablan has been undergoing counseling during his pretrial release and has had very positive results.

Berline said Sablan is currently employed and supporting his family.

On the restitution issue, Berline said one victim was made whole in that he received two iPads from the retailer.

Additionally, Berline said, the two iPads at issue were recovered by authorities.

Berline said the retailer, Powermax, recovered its losses through USPS insurance and, presumably, the recovered iPads were also returned to Powermax.

Sablan signed a plea deal with the U.S. government. He pleaded guilty to one count of unauthorized mail opening, which carries a maximum penalty of one-year imprisonment, a $100,000 fine, and one-year supervised release.

According to the factual basis of the plea deal, Sablan opened a piece of mail that was not directed to him and without authority on Nov. 19, 2012.

The information charged Sablan with two counts of unauthorized mail opening and one count of misuse of postal property.

According to the information, the package that Sablan opened on Nov. 19, 2012, contained two Apple iPads.

On April 28, 2013, Sablan unlawfully opened a package that was addressed to a certain postal box. The package contained two Apple iPhones. He stole the two iPhones. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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MARCH 11, 2016 FRIDAY	MARCH 12, 2016 SATURDAY	MARCH 13, 2016 SUNDAY	MARCH 16, 2016 WEDNESDAY	MARCH 18, 2016 FRIDAY	MARCH 19, 2016 SATURDAY
Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	Sunday Brunch $22	Buffet Lunch $14	Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)
MARCH 20, 2016 SUNDAY	**MARCH 23, 2016 WEDNESDAY**	**MARCH 25, 2016 FRIDAY**	**MARCH 26, 2016 SATURDAY**	**MARCH 27, 2016 SUNDAY**	**MARCH 30, 2016 WEDNESDAY**
Sunday Brunch $22	Buffet Lunch $14	Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	Sunday Brunch $22	Buffet Lunch $14

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Woman gets 5 year in jail over stabbing of cashier in attempted robbery

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman has imposed a five-year prison term without possibility of parole on Sheryl Lynn Muna Worswick, a 39-year-old woman who stabbed a female cashier with a knife during an attempted robbery at a store in San Antonio.

At a sentencing hearing on Wednesday afternoon, Worswick pleaded guilty to attempted robbery.

Wiseman reluctantly accepted the plea agreement.

Wiseman sentenced the defendant to 10 years in prison, all suspended except for five years.

Worswick was given credit for time served.

After completing the prison term, the defendant will be placed on five years of supervised probation.

Worswick was ordered to pay $1,745.12 and $339.89 in restitutions to the cashier and Islander Mini Mart, respectively.

The defendant was ordered to perform 500 hours of community work service and complete any counseling recommended by the Community Guidance Center. During the probationary period, she is not allowed to consume any alcoholic beverages.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Worswick with attempted robbery, aggravated assault and battery, assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

As part of the plea deal, assistant attorney general Barbara Cepeda moved to dismiss the remaining charges. Wiseman granted the motion.

Assistant public defender Michael Sato appeared as counsel for Worswick.

According to the factual basis of the plea deal, on Jan. 17, 2016 on Saipan, Worswick, while armed with a knife, entered Islander Mini Mart with the intent to force the cashier to give her money, and cutting the cashier on her hand requiring 15 stitches.

The 52-year-old cashier told police that while she was behind the cashier counter conducting a transaction with a customer shortly before noon, a woman later identified through surveillance camera as Worswick, came in and asked her what time it was.

About five minutes later, Worswick came back armed with a knife and locked the front door.

A struggle later ensued, causing injuries to the cashier. The defendant ran away. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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Garapan Public Market to reopen on March 31

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After more than half a year of being closed, the Garapan Public Market is set to be back in business by the end of this month.

In a membership meeting Wednesday night, the CNMI Farmers Cooperative Association, led by president Crispin Deleon Guerrero, agreed and announced their soft opening date on March 31.

According to co-op secretary Sid Cabrera, the farmers are ready to begin selling their produce at the market.

Although there are still not a lot of fruits particularly mangoes, banana, and avocados, they are hoping to fill the shelves of the market through the help of both member and non-member farmers.

They are also coordinating with farmers from Tinian and Rota since they may be able to send fresh produce to sell on Saipan. However, these may be a bit higher in price due to the cost of shipping.

The co-op is seeking the support of hotels and restaurants in buying their produce, which are all grown locally to help farmers and the economy as well.

Aside from more than 30 co-op members who attended the meeting, government officials were also present including Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

During the meeting, Torres told the farmers that he will be assisting them including providing the co-op with $2,000 worth of seeds.

"We're buying seeds to sell to the farmers," Cabrera said, adding that sometimes it's difficult for them to find the right kind of seeds for the right fruit to grow on the islands.

The governor will also provide temporary manpower to assist the farmers in their soft opening. At least two staff will be assigned to the market.

According to Cabrera, the co-op still doesn't have a manager who will take care of the market operations.

"We are actively looking for a manager. Someone who knows how to run a business," Cabrera said.

The Northern Marians College-Cooperative Research, Extension, and Education Service was also present at the meeting and will be providing technical assistance to the farmers with regards to how to better grow their produce.

For their part, the co-op is seeking the help of the government in providing them vehicles for produce delivery, especially to hotels and restaurants. They are also seeking help from the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation for more funding.

Cabrera said they are looking at operating the market on a whole day schedule possibly from Mondays through Saturdays once it opens.

Magical Music of Roman Rudnytsky finale tonight

Rudnytsky

Roman Rudnytsky will be playing his final concert tonight at the Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center. The program is open to the public at the cost of $8 for adults and $5 for students. Half of the proceeds will be presented to the CNMI's Thespians of the Western Pacific Islands scholarship program.

Tonight's programs will include selections from such classical masters as Poulenc, Gershwin, Mozart, Liszt, Rachmaninoff, and other musical greats, performed by a modern day master. Tonight's concert will have different selections of music from the concert on Tuesday. The award-winning Marianas High School glee club, Rhythm 'N Harmony, and the talented students of the DoRe-Mi School of Music will open tonight's program.

Rudnytsky is an internationally active concert pianist of Ukrainian background whose frequent performances take him all over the world—to every continent and places in-between. In addition to performances in capital cities and important musical centers, he often plays in places away from the musical mainstream, bringing the world and pleasure of classical music to audiences which seldom experience this type of music in live performance. He has received much acclaim in the world's press and many repeat invitations.

During his visit to Saipan, he has traveled to many of the CNMI schools, playing and discussing music with the students. This is Rudnytsky's seventh trip to the CNMI. Rudnytsky travels at his own expense and donates his time to the community. The Friends of the Arts, with the help of sponsors from the community, have hosted Rudnytsky's stay.

The Friends of the Arts would like to thank the generous sponsors who make this visit possible: Bridge Capital, IT&E, Paradise Island Animal Hospital, Atkins-Kroll Toyota, Hertz Car Rental, Brabu Pharmacy, Triple J Saipan, PHI Pharmacy, Hardt Eye Clinic, J's Restaurant, the Canton Chinese Restaurant, Café at the Park and HR Support, CNMI. Without their assistance events such as this would not be possible.

The Friends of the Arts invites the community to come and enjoy this special opportunity and an evening of Magical Music. ***(PR)***

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AS PART OF NEW PARTNERSHIP

Sister Remedios to relocate to MCS campus

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

As part of the long-running relationship between Sister Remedios Early Childhood Development Center and Mount Carmel School, MCS seniors visit Sister Remedios every year to work with and tutor kindergarten students.

This week, Sister Remedios Early Childhood Development Center and Mount Carmel School announced that they had approved a historic partnership that will result in the physical relocation of SRECDC to the MCS campus. The relocation will take place over the summer in time for the upcoming 2016-2017 school year.

"We are very excited about this partnership, especially since both schools share the same roots," said MCS president Galvin Deleon Guerrero. He was referring to the fact that both schools were started by the Mercedarian Missionaries of Berriz Sisters, with SRECDC opening in 1951 and MCS opening the next year in 1952.

Deleon Guerrero added, "And since many of our families have children in both schools, this will make things easier and more convenient for our parents and guardians."

SRECDC principal Bennet Seman is also very excited about the partnership. In particular, she said, "Given the high cost of maintenance in the current dated facilities, we are very happy that our students will be moving into newer classrooms and buildings."

Seman noted, though, that despite the relocation, SRECDC will maintain its curriculum, instructional faculty, tuition rates, and uniform code. "We want this to be as smooth a transition as possible for everyone," Seman said.

As part of that transition, the MCS Leadership Team visited the SRECDC campus earlier this week to identify what furniture, curricular resources, and other materials could be moved. The team even determined that the SRECDC playground could, for the most part, be relocated as well to the MCS campus.

According to MCS principal Frances Taimanano the partnership will complement both schools. "This will be a great way to bring our two schools into one family, which is what the MMB sisters intended all along."

To facilitate the transition, the MCS team included kindergarten as an option in the school's online admissions portal, which can be accessed at the school's website, www.mountcarmelsaipan.com. ***(PR)***

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Cubans deserve to read about American ideals

The United States and Cuba are on the road to re-establishing diplomatic and cultural ties after a half-century of hostilities. President Barack Obama will visit the island nation March 20-22, demonstrating the power of diplomacy and asserting democratic values.

But the American Booksellers Association and other big players in the publishing industry are concerned that he is neglecting a major piece of business. While many cultural links between Cuba and the United States have been restored, book selling has not been. Consequently, the industry has petitioned the president to bring that to an end.

It would take an act of Congress to lift the trade embargo, and that's not likely to happen while Obama is in office. But publishers believe the president can lift the ban affecting books and educational materials through his authority over cultural exchange.

Publishers Weekly, the largest trade publication for the industry, is running a petition in its current edition asserting that the embargo is "harmful to book culture and runs counter to American ideals of free expression." It says books are "catalysts for greater cross-cultural understanding," regardless of a person's politics.

The petition also reminds Washington that "Cuba boasts a rich and proud literary tradition with much to contribute to book culture" and that the country has an adult literacy rate of nearly 100 percent.

While the Republican leadership that controls Congress is opposed to lifting the trade embargo, they should be willing to see more American books enter the communist-ruled country. The sooner ordinary Cubans are exposed to democratic ideals through reading, the more backward the Castro regime will appear.

Obama is right to keep chipping away at this relic of the Cold War. It would be even better if Congress went along.

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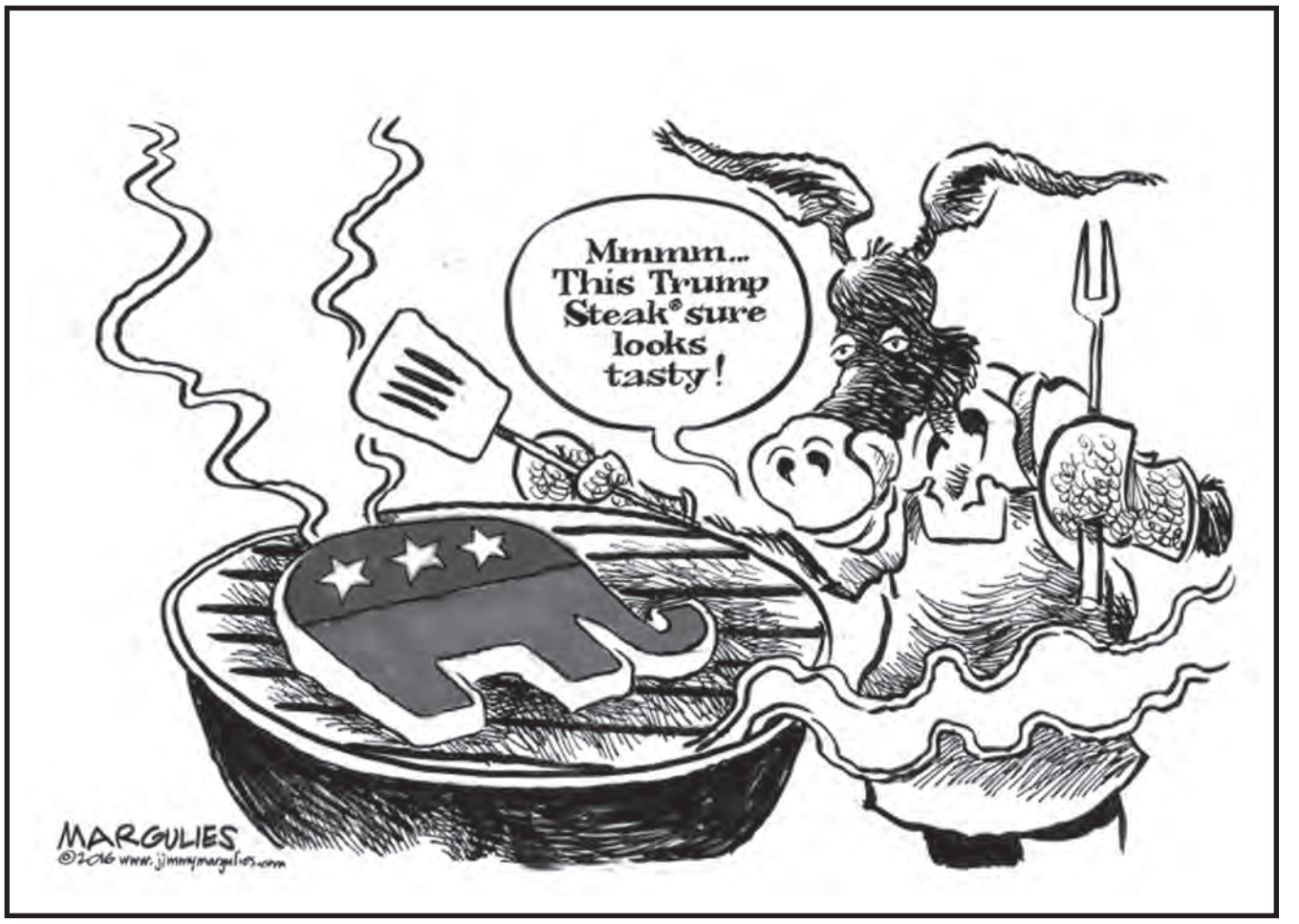

PISSED

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

Carolinian Lino Olopai publicly used the word at the way the bones of "his ancestors" excavated from the BSI resort hotel was handled, at a public meeting in the Multi-Purpose Center when ancestral bones were on display and an archaeologist was present to offer handling details.

The looking-down on the darker skinned Carolinian by the fairer-skinned Chamorro pointed to bones with betel stains as belonging to Carolinians, for Chamorro did not chew the nut, it was claimed. The excavated bones are stained, but now, they are Chamorros. Mr. Olopai has reasons to be pissed.

"Pissed" is not a Refaluwasch word but for elder Olopai, it might as well be. "I am tired of being put down and ignored over such serious matters as ancestral bones that need to be handled with respect in accompanying traditional rites and rituals," he said. The daily papers carried his more polite pronouncements.

BSI lawyer Viola Alepuyo assured the audience that the necessary rites and rituals were observed as soon as the bones were discovered and recovered.

To piss is but a mere physiological function, but being pissed carries emotive content that can be as casual as just being irritated, to the convulsive response that grates at the bottom of one's internal being. Knowing Lino and his normal polite demeanor, it would take a lot to drive him to the extreme intensity on the other end of irritation.

But let us leave Mr. Olopai's emotions behind for a moment, and concentrate on the historic distinction between Carolinian and Chamorro that might affect the matter of bones in known burial grounds in Garapan, home to Refaluwasch navigators who tended to be coastal as the Chamorros tended to farm inland.

That ethnic division is really not necessary, as we claimed in an earlier article, as all of us on island are at one time or another, visitors to the land. While indigene has legal connotations particularly in relationship to real estate, the Carolinians relied more on ancestral and communal usage compared to the Torrens-titled Chamorros schooled in Hispanic ways. Carolinian defines ancestral land relationship on usage, the Chamorro, on ownership; public lands entailed a claimant's rights that make ownership of high premium more than mere use. Even if it is not used, if owned, it entails rights.

We observed the relationship to land in places like Samoa and Tonga where communal ownership was held in trust by the assigned and respected sector of the population, perhaps, a paradigm to the Carolinian way of relating to land.

On the other hand, when we saw the open communal houses in Tonga and Western Samoa, we were made clear that ownership took a back seat to use. In fact, in terms of the orchard in the yard, equally true in my brother's former residence near Diamond Head in Oahu, the fruits were for anyone to pluck for consumption, and no one raised a voice of complaint.

Chamorros as children of the 20th and 21st century look at an artifact of the past to be objectively and rationally catalogued, categorized and codified, while Carolinians want it enshrined with accompanied chants and songs. There is no conflict here, just a difference in emphasis and method. One need not be considered disrespectful for being too rational, nor one be thought of as too superstitious for being a stickler about rites and rituals.

Mayhap, BSI need to have an archaeologist and a shaman confer first, share wisdom of each other's perspective and join together in the same panel before displaying the excavated remnants to the public. Solely taking the objective and rational view is insufficient as many still live out of a universe unfamiliar with Robocops and the Iron Man.

Which leads me back to the emotional outburst of elder Olopai. One only needs to visit the "Lino Olopai Park" to understand. Hedged between a residence of Russian visitors and a predominantly Korean high rise, the later in a federally "subsidized" low-income dwelling, it is a traditional sea front. He keeps his catamaran and single-hulled proa outrigger in the yard under the dangerously towering pine trees, and you know of someone guarding the navigational customs of tradition and nursing the memory of ancestry and progeny.

His comments on the lifestyle that overwhelms the environment of his familiar leaving him pissed are not easily dismissible. When ignored, it may very well be a hard rock in the middle of the road, understandable but not necessarily justifiable.

The allure of gambling to the Chinese is not as strong in the northeast as it is among the Cantonese of Macau and the mahjong tiles on velvety Kowloon tables. We turned our visitors' industry into the roll of the dice in spite of the "No" referenda sentiments. The economic dependence on casinos is questionable. Our CNMI government officials are finally noticing that economic development is awash with get-rich-quick investments making a few rich, but leaving the masses short on public service. Lino is not the only one pissed.

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Time two ways

By ED STEPHENS JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.

One book that enjoys long-standing recognition among Saipan's professionals is *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*. It was written by Robert Pirsig and, though it first hit the shelves in 1974, it's still a popular work. I mention it occasionally.As for the book itself, it uses a motorcycle trip as a way to describe some philosophical ideas. As for mentioning what's in the book, on today's occasion I'll offer this concept: time.

I don't have any bright ideas here, I'm just interested in taking a look two different ways of envisioning, and expressing, our orientation with time.

So let's get back to Pirsig. He appended an afterward to *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* in 1984. He wrote this about the ancient Greeks and their concept of time: "They saw the future as something that came upon them from behind their backs with the past receding away before their eyes."

In other words, we can't really see where we're going. We can only see where we've been.

That seemed like a mighty freaky concept when I first read it. After all, it's the opposite of my modern Yankee conditioning, in which we see ourselves facing the future. In this view, the future is in front of us, the past, behind us, as if the future is a road and we're walking, or driving, along it.

"Facing the future" is so commonly said that it's a cliche.

I try to avoid cliches like the plague, but where there's smoke, there's fire, so I decided to hunt for more linguistic clues that illustrate our modern concept of time.

We can consider that, for example, "foresight" involves the future, and "back then" refers to the past.

Or consider that, on the happy side of the ledger, we might "look forward" to a future event. On the unhappy side of things, if something bad happens, we want to "put it behind us" so it's no longer in view, and then we can face the future again and "move forward."

Well, so far, our words and concepts seem to point the same way.

But I did find an exception. The word "before" means in front of, but it also can refer to the past, so this is the opposite of the usual outlook. I'll tally this as a minor quirk that doesn't undermine the basic convention.

Since we started off with ancient wisdom, we might as well reach for more of it, this time from the Chinese language, which has the wisdom of the ages built into its very script.

Don't look to me for any definitive scholarship in this realm (or in any other realm, for that matter) but, from what I see, the Chinese term for "front" is also used to refer to the past. And the term for "back" is used to refer to the future.

I'm not aware of any counter-examples, but if you know of any you can let me know. In the meantime, it looks to me that the enduring Chinese wisdom and the ancient Greek wisdom are in agreement here.

OK, so where does this leave us?

I have no idea. The whole notion of time has always had me completely stymied. I doubt I could even come up with a respectable definition of what "time" really is. We talk about it, we worry about it, we measure it, we charge for it, and we pay for it, but we've never even seen it.

Our terms, our metaphors, seem to treat it like we treat the other dimensions, the tangible ones, since that's the only way we can envision things. Well, most of us, anyway. There are probably physicists who can contemplate it on another level, but they're still at the mercy of time just as much as the rest of us are, so it's not like they've reckoned their way around it. Well, not yet, anyway.

As for orienting our view of time, Pirsig agrees with the ancient Greek outlook. Of this outlook, he wrote: "When you think about it, that's a more accurate metaphor than our present one. Who really *can* face the future? All you can do is project from the past, even when the past shows that such projections are often wrong. And who really can forget the past? What else is there to know?"

Payroll of deception

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

We are swamped with issues of substance derailing understanding, clarity, and their implications. Chances of misperception are heightened by the usual lack of focus. We boast shortsighted dispositions and staples of negligence in business as usual.

Often quiz why is there such audacious arrogance in the aloof demeanor of people on imperial Capital Hill. Quite a journey in the obvious and ludicrous riddle what may have gone astray? It's an interesting political shift though.

Appalling the consistent rumors flying everywhere of people being on payroll somewhere to serve as servile lapdogs and tigers of favored rich donors. Their income is pipelined quietly to keep it from the not so ignorant. I mean one plus one is two!

What I refer to as the local triad are paid guards to keep the boys in check or domesticated when they begin going astray that could endanger the fate of the firm. Call it cronyism! No wonder the deepening distrust in government!

Sitting atop nuclear bombs

The narrative or mouthwash in town is the insolvency of the NMI. Though talked about in umpteen ways, most folks have no idea how to wiggle their way out of the deepening hardship.

Though there's self-denial, the fragile shield would soon crumble of its own weight. We refuse to accept it, yet it's the truth no matter how you slice, splice, or dice it. Harping about it is simply to raise the red flag that the NMI is sitting atop two nuclear time bombs. They are:

1. The depletion of funds when investment money is spent down to the penny two and-a-half years from now. All retirees would be broke in their final golden years.

2. The Defined Contribution plan would also kick-in when current members retire only to find out that they too are forced into instant poverty for insufficient income.

The issue merits critical review, if not, reform measures to see if it could return to a self-sustaining posture. Otherwise, there would be over three thousand very unhappy campers some two and-a-half years from now.

The Defined Contribution plan also merits review the goal being to ensure that future retirees could live with decent income in their golden years. Both require the services of experts to dissect means of revival and survival. Do small private sector employers provide 401(k) plan for their employees? What becomes of their employees in their golden years?

If this weren't undertaken on both fronts then more unhappy campers would be gathering along the shore of insolvency to ponder their future in the abyss of poverty the prized trophy of so-called leadership's staples of negligence. Sleepwalking, anybody?

Parting with Passivity: It must be contentment wrapped in *mañana* and corrupting politics that has sent us to the quiet corners of humiliating passivity. We cringe and quiz to death if this is the future then instantly succumb to instant dementia.

The instability found in an island economy is as perennial as the grass. Though the grass may have been torched by long droughts in the lack of leadership we take it in stride as though Santa Claus is coming to town. What adolescency!

■■■

The Administrative State: Senator Terry Santos shared an essay by Charles J. Cooper of National Affairs, a quarterly journal in Washington on the "administrative state."

In "four opinions authored by Justice Clarence Thomas call into question the constitutionality of the massive and largely unaccountable bureaucracy that we commonly refer to as the administrative state. In bold and clear prose, Justice Thomas explained how the basic principles of our Constitution's separation of powers are incompatible with the system of bureaucratic rule that took root in the Progressive era and now reaches into virtually every realm of American life.

"It is fitting that we refer to the administrative state as a "state," for it has become a sovereign power unto itself, an imperium regulating virtually every dimension of our lives. Its nearly 450 agencies are manned by legions of bureaucrats, now numbering almost 2.7 million. In 2013 alone, 3,659 final rules were issued, adding 26,417 pages to the Federal Register."

Said Senator Santos: "This ruins self-government everywhere especially small entities like the NMI." I couldn't agree more.

Voter anger across the country

The establishments on both sides of the national political spectrum are stunned by the voter anger across the country. Simple: both sides have listened to themselves not the voters. This time the voters are saying it's time to look after our own welfare by defying every pitch to stay with the old irrelevant establishment. I couldn't agree more.

The promises made were never fulfilled though both sides almost instantly joined the Big Boys Club, e.g., corporate America who dangled a secured future after office. So they dropped their promises to improve the livelihood of the average citizen in favor of their pockets. It's such a cozy and dangerous relationship where "we the people" are treated like fools or roadside trash.

The same has happened here since 1979. It continues to be the new fad of the elected elite. Local Republicans on the hill promised everything except its audacity to trash the voice of "we the people" who shot down casino twice. It's all the thirst to cozy up with rich donors. Fine. It's our turn to bring our anger to them this November.

Wasted the promise of a hopeful and brighter tomorrow reduced to negligence in the demeaning manner you have treated the voice of "we the people" as you cement cozying up with rich donors. We may not have the money but our powerful voice would be heard once more this November. Enough of the arrogance and demagoguery delivered in "bait-and-switch" fashion.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

They lied to us

After not receiving any mail for over a week, I suddenly got a whole bunch of letters and packages on Monday, March 14. Among the letters were two sent from Guam and postmarked Feb. 23 and Feb. 25, along with a credit card statement whose payment date was March 5. Normally, I would have received this statement a week before the end of the month, thus it was over three weeks late.

So, the statements by a USPS spokesperson and a United Airlines spokesperson that there is no backlog on Guam ARE LIES. The doctor who stated that mail was backing up on Guam was correct. Thanks to him, we are finally getting our mail.

This is no reflection on the Saipan USPS staff who do a great job distributing our mail under these trying circumstances.

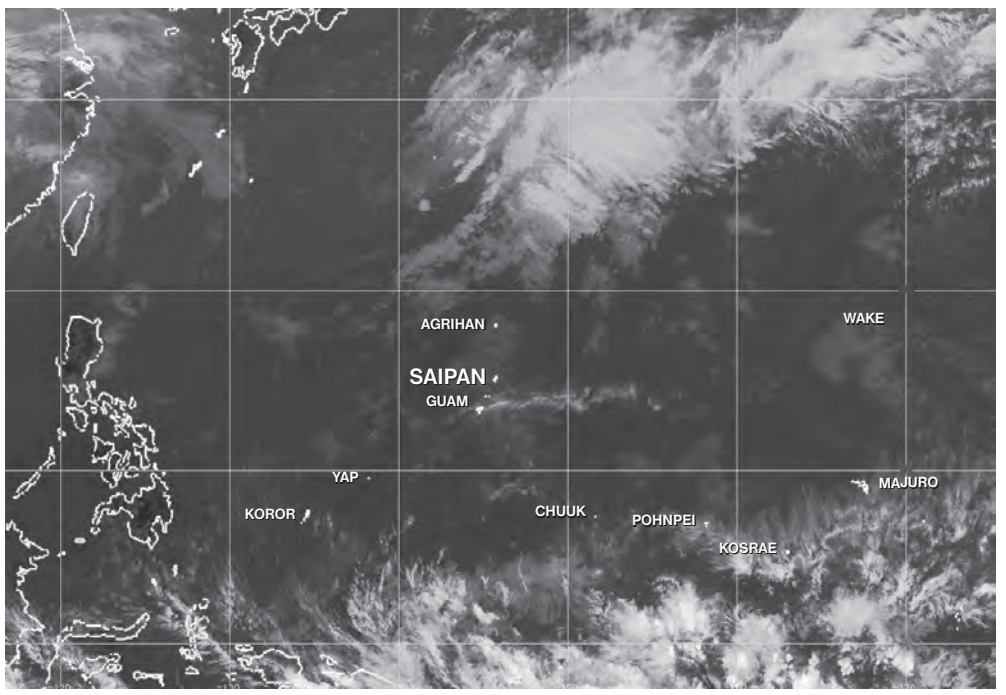
Imants E. Klingbergs
Chalan Galaide

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly sunny with isolated light showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated light showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated light showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated light showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated light showers.
▲86° ▼75°	▲87° ▼75°	▲87° ▼75°	▲87° ▼75°	▲87° ▼75°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:18 PM, THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front reaches southwestward from northeast of Iwo To island through 25N147E to end west of the Northern Mariana Islands at 18N138E. Cloudiness with scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are seen north of a line from 17N139E to 25N155E. A surface trough stretches southeastward from near Mindanao through 7N130E to end near EQ146E. Scattered showers are found near the southeastern end of this feature between the equator and 4N from 140E to 150E. Converging trade winds are generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Pohnpei, Kosrae and Kwajalein south of a line from 2N153E to 4N171E. Scattered showers are present southeast of Majuro within 60 miles of a line from 4N176E to 6N180.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Showers	▲85	▼76
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼76
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼76
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼79
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼80
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼81
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼81

Around the Globe

Auckland	Rain	▲75	▼65
Beijing	Sunny	▲70	▼37
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	▲70	▼65
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲76	▼66
London	Partly Cloudy	▲52	▼41
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲81	▼55
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲94	▼75
Melbourne	Rain	▲64	▼54
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼70
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲65	▼46
Osaka	Rain	▲65	▼56
Paris	Sunny	▲57	▼40
Pusan	Rain	▲62	▼45
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲61	▼45
Salem	Sunny	▲64	▼37
San Francisco	Sunny	▲71	▼51
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲65	▼40
Tokyo	Windy	▲65	▼56
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲69	▼46

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides

Saipan Harbor

6:05 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
11:30 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
4:27 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
11:49 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:23 AM	6:28 PM
Saturday	6:22 AM	6:28 PM
Sunday	6:21 AM	6:28 PM
Monday	6:21 AM	6:28 PM
Tuesday	6:20 AM	6:28 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	2:24 AM	2:11 PM
Saturday	3:12 AM	3:04 PM
Sunday	3:57 AM	3:54 PM
Monday	4:40 AM	4:43 PM
Tuesday	5:20 AM	5:32 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 1, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:10pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ628	3:50am	7:40am	Daily
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2922/193	8:40am	11:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	11:10pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR
UA2928/183	6:05pm	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2928/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2928/193	6:05pm	11:10pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	7:20am+1	1, 6 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	9:00am+1	3, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ628/721	3:50am	12:50am	Daily via ICN
UA2922/159	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:35am	3:10pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ627	9:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2927	10:00am	5:35pm	3 via GUM
UA190/2929	10:00am	9:20pm	3 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ702/627	12:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/2925	10:20pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA192/2920	10:20pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA192/2927	10:20pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA192/2929	10:20pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/2925	11:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2920	11:59pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	11:59pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2929	11:59pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ724/627	2:20pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
UA116/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA116/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA116/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Tan Holdings joins millions around the world in celebrating Earth Hour and encourages everyone to take a stand against climate change.

SHINE A
LIGHT
ON CLIMATE
ACTION

EARTH 60+ HOUR
™

19 MARCH 2016 | 8:30 - 9:30PM LOCAL TIME

Switch off your light and switch on your social power at earthhour.org

JOIN THE MOVEMENT. BE PART OF THE MISSION TO SAVE THE PLANET.

Tan Holdings
www.tanholdings.com

ANTICIPATING ENROLLMENT INCREASES

MCS announces open admissions for SY 2016-2017

This week, Mount Carmel School announced that its online admissions portal is up and running for families that want to enroll their children for the upcoming 2016-2017 school year. The portal is available through the school's website, www.mountcarmelsaipan.com.

The school is anticipating an enrollment increase, consistent with enrollment trends for the past few years. School president Galvin Deleon Guerrero noted that the enrollment increased from around 250 in 2012 to a current enrollment of over 450.

Regarding the increase, he said, "We have taken steps to accommodate the increase by hiring additional teachers, allowing us to keep teacher-to-student ratios optimal for student learning." He added, "We will, likewise, do the same for the upcoming school year to uphold the highest standards of educational quality for our students."

The school also announced its new Knight Ambassadors program. The program allows prospective students and their families to tour the campus with a current student who has been trained about the school's programs, history, and interesting factoids. According to Deleon Guerrero, "The Knight Ambassador program is a great way for people to learn more about all that our school has to offer."

The school also announced that its Board of Directors approved the continuation of incentives that were offered this past 2015-2016 school year. The first incentive is an Early Bird Registration Fee. Normally $400 per child, parents who pay the registration fee by May 1 will get a 50 percent discount on the fee, at only $200 per child.

The school will also continue family discounts for families that enroll more than one child. Families with two children can avail of a $600 discount for the second child, families with three children can avail of a $1,000 discount for the third child, and families with four children can avail of a $1,500 discount for the fourth child.

In addition, the school will once again offer up to $750 per student in scholarships and financial aid for qualified students. Scholarship and Financial Aid application forms will be available on May 31.

Lastly, the school announced that it would waive the $50 application fee per child for each application submitted online using the new admissions portal.

To learn more about enrolling at Mount Carmel School for the upcoming 2016-2017 school year, call 234-6184 or visit www.mountcarmelsaipan.com. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

While Mount Carmel School's enrollment continues to grow, that does not stop the student body from continuing traditions like the weekly Knights Calisthenics, held every Tuesday to promote healthy living.

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Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY Plaintiff, -vs- F.V. HOFSCHNEIDER, INC., HELEN H. ABAYARE, MARIA U. HOFSCHNEIDER, FRANCES H. DIAZ, and BANK OF GUAM, Defendants	Civil Action No. 04-0109 **NOTICE OF AUCTION**

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, CNMI Marshal, or any other person authorized by law hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants F.V. Hofschneider, Inc., and Frances H. Diaz, in the following described, real properties situated in Tinian, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

Lot No. 004 T 29, situated in San Jose Village, Tinian, CNMI, containing an area of 2,063 square meters, more or less, as described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 004 T 00, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as Document No. 100- D, on the 23rd of July 1970, including all existing and future improvements on the said property.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at the CDA Building, First Floor Conference Room, Oleai, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, April 1, 2016**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. **Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
2. Reserve. The auction shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
   a.) To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
   b.) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c.) To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or to George Lloyd Hasselback, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
5. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or *credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. **Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Defendants F.V. Hofschneider, Inc., and Frances H. Diaz in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property or its title will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.**

Dated this 22nd day of February, 2016.

/s/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety

*Master Card and Visa only. A 2% processing fee will be assessed on credit card payments.

CANCELLED

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-16-IFB-005

Repair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) Laboratory Building

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Repair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) Laboratory Building,** Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **March 11, 2016** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **March 30, 2016 , 9:00 a.m. local time** at the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife Conference Room, Lower Base, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **April 01, 2016** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-16-IFB-004"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, April 15, 2016.** Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, April 15, 2016**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **April 15, 2016** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **April 25, 2016**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, April 27, 2016**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m. local time, on April 15, 2016**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Twenty **(120) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred Fifty (US$150.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ **JAMES A. ADA** Secretary of Public Works	/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN** Director of Procurement & Supply	/s/ **RICHARD B. SEMAN** Secretary of Department of Land and Natural Resources

'14VS' jury selection on March 21 cancelled

This is to inform all prospective jurors on panel "14VS" that the Jury Selection scheduled for Monday, March 21, 2016, at 8:30am in Courtroom 223A is hereby cancelled until further notice. For further information, contact Clerk of Court Patrick Diaz at Superior Court at 236-9766. ***(PR)***

HANMI records highest occupancy, room rate

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands reported its February 2015 occupancy and room rates as the highest on record since 1992.

HANMI reported 97.95 percent occupancy among 11 member hotels for February 2016, beating the previous monthly record set in February 1997 before the Asian Economic Crisis. Room rates were $165.88 in February 2016, also beating the previously monthly record set in August 1996.

"We are fantastically excited to be breaking the records for occupancy and room rates this year," said HANMI chairwoman Gloria Cavanagh. "Our hotels have worked diligently with the government and the community to see this day. Our tourism industry is now moving beyond recovery to new heights."

HANMI said 65,252 of 66,961 available room nights sold in February 2016, compared to 59,719 of 64,512 available room nights sold over the same period last year. Occupancy registered a 5-percent increase compared to February 2015, while average room rates were at $157.42 last February.

"The tourism recovery demonstrates the reliability of our hotel members as investors in the Commonwealth community," added Cavanagh. "We are still asking the Legislature to make amendments to PL 15-2 that would allow those of our hotels on public lands to negotiate with the Department of Public Lands for new leases, so we can continue building the economy. This would be fiducially responsible, as evidence by the ongoing growth in tourism."

HANMI has also been supporting recent FAM tours by Japanese travel agents, as coordinated by the Marianas Visitors Authority and Delta Air Lines in a bid to revive visitor arrivals from Japan. Mariana Resort & Spa, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Kanoa Resort, Saipan World Resort, Aqua Resort Club, and Grandvrio Resort Saipan donated hotel accommodations for the tours in February and earlier this month, with additional tours slated through June 2016.

"It's important to have a diverse market mix, and Japan is still very important to the tourism industry," said Cavanagh. "This is why HANMI is working collaboratively with MVA and Delta to bring these travel agents in, so they can experience the beauty of the Marianas and be better equipped to sell our destination to potential visitors."

Other HANMI member hotels are Aquarius Beach Tower, Century Hotel, Coral Ocean Point Resort, Fiesta Resort & Spa, and Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

HANMI was established in 1985 as a professional forum for the hospitality industry of the NMI. ***(PR)***

Civil Service Commission pushes for govt employee benefits

"It's time," stated Herman Deleon Guerrero, chairman of the Civil Service Commission. "In fact, it's long overdue. The austerity measures that have frozen salaries since 2001, with no annual or merit increases, no bonuses, have left government employees with no recognition of service or performance for 15 years.

Two years ago the commission was able to reinstate promotional increases for civil service employees. Since then the commission has been working with the administration to restart performance-based increases."

Annual increases, termed Within-Grade increases (WGIs), are performance-based increases established as part of the current government compensation plan by Public Law 7-31. Alternating year bonuses, also based on performance, for employees at the top of their grade and not eligible for WGIs, are authorized by Public Law 11-59. Both were suspended by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio in 2001 due to the lack of funding for the awards. The suspension has been continued by each subsequent governor.

Tinian commissioner Arsene Borja, Fiscal Committee chair for the commission, said, "Yes, the commission feels that the hardworking employees of the Commonwealth deserve recognition. The commission has included sufficient funding in its budget request for Fiscal Year 2017 that will provide a Within-Grade increase or a PL 11-59 bonus, both based on performance, for all deserving civil service employees. The proposed budget has been submitted and is now undergoing review. We are hoping the budget committee recognizes the importance of this item and agrees to its funding."

According to Deleon Guerrero, "The commission has discussed its concerns regarding this 15-year salary stagnation with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres in a recent meeting. The governor shares our concerns and, with his staff, has also been looking at ways to provide fair compensation treatment to deserving government employees. We're confident that the governor and his Special Assistant for Management and Budget, Ms. Virginia Villagomez, are supportive of our efforts and will do their best to help us get these increases going again for our civil service employees for FY 2017 and future years. We also met with and discussed our concerns and efforts with Speaker of the House Ralph Demapan, Vice Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero, and the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Rep. Antonio Sablan. All were strongly supportive."

"The commission feels that this is a very important issue for our civil service employees. We will keep working with the Administration on reinitiating these increases. It's time."

The Civil Service Commission is the independent CNMI government agency that is responsible for representing government employees, hearing, and resolving employee grievances and appeals, and overseeing the operation of the Office of Personnel Management. The present Commission has been active since its reforming in December 2012. ***(PR)***

Vendors invited to peddle wares in NMC Charter Day

Northern Marianas College is inviting vendors to take part in the college's 35th Annual Charter Day celebration on Friday and Saturday, April 8 and 9, 2016.

Agencies, businesses, clubs, and other civic organizations are invited to participate in this year's celebration by purchasing booth space for the following categories: food and drinks (water/ coconut juice in a nut), game booths, retail (arts, and crafts, toys etc.), and information.

Booth applications forms must be submitted by Friday, April 1, 2016 by 4pm. Note, however, that booth spaces are limited so applications should be submitted as soon as possible.

The booth fee is $250 for all commercial vendors but for student clubs and non-profit organizations, booth fees are $100.

Applications forms are available for download at www.marianas.edu, or can be picked up from the NMC Student Center in Building I.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Food vendors from last year's Northern Marianas College Charter Day offered a variety of delicious food and drinks. The deadline to submit applications for booth spaces will be on April 1, 2016. To sign up for booth space for the upcoming Charter Day, visit marianas.edu.

For more information, contact Queanna Sablan at 234-5498 ext. 6774 or email queanna.sablan@marianas.edu. For additional information about the Charter Day, contact Greg Sablan at 237-6795 or visit www.marianas.edu. ***(PR)***

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FACSIMILE: (671) 477-2511

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ANZ GUAM, INC., formerly known as CITIZENS SECURITY BANKS (GUAM), INC.,
Plaintiff,
vs.
JESUS T. LIZAMA dba VICTORIA HOTEL, J&JEV ENTERPRISES, INC., and the BANK OF GUAM,
Defendants.

Civil Action No. 00-0296 D

SECOND NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF AUCTION/ JUDICIAL SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Auction/ Judicial Sale for the following properties described below is hereby POSTPONED until further notice. The auction presently scheduled for March 21, 2016 at 10:00 A.M. at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres will not proceed and shall be postponed. The Auction/Judicial Sale shall be re-noticed by publication in the same manner as authorized by the Superior Court, when so deemed appropriate by the undersigned appointed Auctioneer. No bids shall be accepted nor considered until the appropriate re-notice of the auction.

AUCTION/ JUDICIAL SALE: POSTPONED FOR THE FOLLOWING LOTS:

a. LOT 001 D 13, (formerly known as Block 3, Lot 1), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 D 00, the original of which was registered 30 SEP 70 as Document No. 512 at Land Registry, Saipan.
b. LOT 001 D 14, (formerly known as Block 3, Lot 2), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 D 00, the original of which was registered 30 SEP 70 as Document No. 512 at Land Registry, Saipan.
c. TRACT 21732-9, part of original Tract 21732-R1, AH 140), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2085/84, the original of which was recorded 08 AUG 84 as Document No. 84-1439 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

SO NOTICED this 16th day of March, 2016.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

NOTICE OF SALE
CDA FORECLOSED PROPERTIES

The Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) hereby gives notice that it is seeking interested buyers, bids and proposals for the fee simple purchase or the leasing of its foreclosed properties. The specific foreclosed properties available for sale or lease are:

LOT NO.	LOCATION	SIZE (sqm)	DESCRIPTION	ASKING PRICE
SAIPAN PROPERTIES **Friday, March 18, 2016** **2:00pm CDA Conference Room**				
1	Tr 22805-1-4	As Teo	2,241	Vacant	35,000
2	1674-NEW-5-2	Kannat Tabla	1,401	Vacant	25,000
3	012 G 87	Kagman	1,010	Vacant	15,000
4	012 G 88	Kagman	1,130	Vacant	15,000
5	012 G 89	Kagman	902	Vacant	12,000
6	278-15	i-Denni	4,928	Vacant	65,000

Fee Simple Purchase and Auctions (A) & Leasehold or Ground Lease with Option to Purchase (B)

1. Interested bidders and buyers are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of CDA in the property are being sold **"AS IS"** and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property or improvements or any related documents will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer or lessee.
2. CDA reserves the following rights:
   a. To withdraw any or all of the listed properties before sale or lease or before a bid for such property is accepted, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   b. To reject any and all bids or proposals.

Interested persons may contact Christy Kintol at 234-6245 ext. 310 for more information or to inspect properties, appraisals and or photos.

MEETING NOTICE

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority, hereby gives notice that a Regular Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Tuesday March 22, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in the MVA Conference Room, San Jose Professional Building Saipan, MP 96950.

MEETING AGENDA

1) **Preliminary Matters**
   1. Call to Order
   2. Roll Call
   3. Adoption of Agenda
   4. Adoption of Minutes
      a. Regular Board Meeting – February 12, 2016
2) **Public Comments**
   1. Pagan Conference Committee Presentation
3) **Committee Reports**
   1. Finance
4) **New Business**
   1. Purchase of Capital Assets
   2. Renewal of Contracts
      a. Hell of the Marianas
      b. Tagaman
      c. XTERRA
   3. Russia Ad Hoc Proposal
      a. Social Media Contest
   4. Russia Local Budget Proposal
      a. TV Show Media FAM
   5. Korea Ad Hoc Proposal
      a. Golf FAM Tour
5) **Old Business**
   1. Email Poll Ratification
      a. FY 2017 Budget
      b. PAL Express Promotional Support
      c. FESTPAC Funding Request
   2. General Membership Meeting
   3. Joint Meeting MVA/CPA
6) **Miscellaneous/Announcements**
7) **Executive Session**
   1. Personnel Matters
8) **Adjournment**

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
Chair, MVA Board of Directors

USCIS will accept H-1B petitions for FY '17 beginning April 1

WASHINGTON—On April 1, 2016, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will begin accepting H-1B petitions subject to the fiscal year 2017 cap. U.S. businesses use the H-1B program to employ foreign workers in occupations that require highly specialized knowledge in fields such as science, engineering and computer programming.

The congressionally mandated cap on H-1B visas for FY 2017 is 65,000. The first 20,000 H-1B petitions filed for individuals with a U.S. master's degree or higher are exempt from the 65,000 cap.

USCIS expects to receive more than 65,000 petitions during the first five business days of this year's program. The agency will monitor the number of petitions received and notify the public when the H-1B cap has been met. If USCIS receives an excess of petitions during the first five business days, the agency will use a computer-generated lottery system to randomly select the number of petitions required to meet the cap. USCIS will reject all unselected petitions that are subject to the cap as well as any petitions received after the cap has closed.

Premium processing for cap-subject petitions

H-1B petitioners may still continue to request premium processing together with their H-1B petition. However, please note that USCIS has temporarily adjusted its current premium processing practice based on historic premium processing receipt levels and the possibility that the H-1B cap will be met in the first five business days of the filing season. In order to prioritize data entry for cap-subject H-1B petitions, USCIS will begin premium processing for H-1B cap-subject petitions requesting premium processing no later than May 16, 2016.

» USCIS reminds petitioners to follow regulatory requirements

Filing petitions

H-1B petitioners are reminded that when the temporary employment or training will be in different locations, the state where your company or organization's primary office is located will determine where you should send your Form I-129 package, regardless of where in the United States the various worksites are located. Please ensure that when temporary employment or training will be in different locations, the address on page 1, part 1 of Form I-129 is for your organization's primary office. Please note that when listing a "home office" as a work site location on Part 5, question 3, USCIS will consider this a separate and distinct work site location.

H-1B petitioners must follow all statutory and regulatory requirements as they prepare petitions in order to avoid delays in processing and possible requests for evidence. USCIS has developed detailed information, including an optional checklist, Form M-735, Optional Checklist for Form I-129 H-1B Filings, on how to complete and submit an FY 2017 H-1B petition. The optional checklist for FY 2017 will be available within the next week.

Cases will be considered accepted on the date USCIS receives a properly filed petition with the appropriate fees.

For more information on the H-1B nonimmigrant visa program and current Form I-129 processing times, visit the H-1B FY 2017 Cap Season Web page or call the National Customer Service Center at 800-375-5283 or 800-767-1833 (TDD for the hearing impaired). We encourage H-1B applicants to subscribe to the H-1B Cap Season email updates located on the H-1B FY 2017 Cap Season Web page.

For more information on USCIS and its programs, please visit uscis.gov or follow us on Facebook (/uscis), Twitter (@uscis), YouTube (/uscis) and the USCIS blog The Beacon. ***(PR)***

DPW condemns Saipan Animal Shelter

The Department of Public Works-Building Safety Code Division has determined the Office of the Mayor of Saipan Lower Base Animal Shelter is structurally unsafe for use because of damage from Typhoon Soudelor and has ordered the Office of the Mayor of Saipan to vacate it by no later than March 30, 2016.

» Shelter to close at end of the month

The Mayor's Office is complying with the order and has begun the process of physically vacating the shelter by removing its employees and personal property from the shelter and all dogs and cats currently in impoundment.

The Office of the Mayor of Saipan has no temporary shelter where the impounded dogs and cats may be placed and cared for. Because of this reason, Mayor David M. Apatang is offering families and individuals to visit the shelter and pick out any health dog or cat and become a proud pet owner! Come visit the shelter from 7:30am to 4:30pm Monday through Sunday. Give a cat or dog a chance to become your best friend by paying only the yearly license fee of $6 for dogs that have been spayed or neutered, or $10 if not. Since cats do not need to be registered, you can take home a cat for no charge!

"The shelter is officially in crisis mode as we have only a short time frame to find all of these animals good homes," said Spencer Marchadesch, Dog Control Program manager for the Saipan Mayor's Office. "We have terrific animals available for adoption, and if you are thinking of adopting any time in the near future, now is the time to do so because the shelter will not be open for the next several months as repairs take place."

"Unfortunately any animals left over at the end of the month may end up being euthanized, so we are hoping to find as many animals as possible good homes so we don't have to resort to this drastic measure" said Jason Hudy, president of Saipan Cares for Animals.

Visit the Animal Shelter in Lower Base or call the Office of the Mayor of Saipan at 234-6208, or contact Marchadesch at 783-4743. You can also visit Saipan Cares for Animals on Facebook to see pictures and profiles of all 50 wonderful dogs and cats that are waiting and ready to go home with you! More information is available at www.SaipanCaresforAnimals.com, and you can email Hudy from Saipan Cares at Jason@JasonHudy.com. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Isabel is looking for a home and Saipan Cares for Animals is footing the bill for the yearly license fee.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bronco is one of several dogs and cats that will be losing their homes after the Lower Base Animal Shelter was condemned.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Not only dogs will be homeless at month's end because of the closure of the Lower Base Animal Shelter as several cats also call the center their home.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-GOV/CIP-077 (A) (B)

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: APRIL 05, 2016 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

"PURCHASE OF ONE (1) ALL-IN-ONE DESKTOP COMPUTER AND ONE (1) LAPTOP FOR GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ VIRGINIA C. VILLAGOMEZ
CIP ADMINISTRATOR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-DPS-074

SUBMISSION DATE: APRIL 07, 2016 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

"UPGRADE OF THE CNMI AUTOMATED STATE IDENTIFICATION AND DRIVER'S LICENSE INFORMATION SYSTEM, A PROJECT UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY-BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLE"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS FOR THIS ITB IS DUE NO LATER THAN THE **CLOSE OF BUSINESS, MARCH 29, 2016** SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO MR. JOHN A. DL. GUERRERO AT TELEPHONE NO. 670-285-9512.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/S/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-DPS-076

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: APRIL 06, 2016 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

"PURCHASE OF 800 SETS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT UNIFORMS & 200 PIECES OF NECKTIE/HEADGEAR WITH ACCESSORIES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS FOR THIS ITB IS DUE NO LATER THAN THE **CLOSE OF BUSINESS, MARCH 23, 2016** SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO MR. ROBERT A. GUERRERO AT TELEPHONE NO. 670-664-9001.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/S/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-MEDICAID-061

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MARCH 31, 2016 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

"PURCHASE OF A SERVER (RACK MOUNTED) TO INCLUDE ONE (1) BATTERY BACK UP, ROUTER & SWITCH FOR THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, MEDICAID AGENCY"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/S/ HELEN C. SABLAN
MEDICAID DIRECTOR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

IP&E to sponsor Hyatt's Charity Golf Classic anew

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Hyatt Regency Saipan Food & Beverage director Ty Pauling, IP&E marketing assistant Ronald Benavente, Hyatt Regency Rooms director Rosalyn Quintanilla, and Hyatt Regency Engineering director Mihir Rout pose for a group photo.

Hyatt Regency Saipan's longtime business-partner IP&E has contributed a very generous donation of $4,000, making them a Platinum Sponsor for this year's 20th Annual Charity Golf Classic.

The donation from IP&E will aid this year's charity recipients—the Make-A-Wish Foundation and the Northern Marianas Trades Institute.

Hyatt Regency thanks IP&E for their continued support in the community through the annual golf tournament.

Hyatt Food and Beverage director Ty Pauling states, "IP&E's continued generosity helps to make it possible for our team to create a noteworthy tournament, supporting our selected charities and non profit recipients. We are extremely thankful for IP&E's continued partnership with Hyatt Regency Saipan as well as their continued support for the Charity Golf Classic." ***(PR)***

HELP WANTED

UNDERWRITER/ ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

PERSONAL LINES

Qualifications:
- Work experience is a plus.
- Accounting/Marketing graduate is a plus.
- Marketing and sales experience is a plus.
- Willing to undergo further training as required.
- Excellent communications skills.
- Computer literate. Good typing skills. Team Player.

Benefits Include: Sick leave, paid vacation, holiday pay, employee discounts, medical, dental and group life insurance (after probationary period). Profit Sharing Plan – US & CNMI residents (after one year).

Please apply in person. No phone calls please. Submit resume/application to Moylan's Insurance Office, Beach Road Garapan, Saipan. Or email: ctenorio@moylans.net Deadline for all submissions: Until Filled.

MOYLAN'S

Moylan's Insurance Is an Equal Opportunity Employer

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED BIDS for reconditioning of the perimeter fence and widening of Charlie Dock service gate at the Port of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Project No. CPA-SS-002-15 will be received at the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP, 96950.

All Bids shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: Port of Saipan Reconditioning of the Perimeter Fence/Widening of Charlie Service Gate, Project No. CPA-SS-002-15 and must be submitted no later than **2:00 p.m. on FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2016** to the Office of the Executive Director at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed Bids will be publicly opened and read. Bidders are requested to submit one original and two copies of its bid proposal.

The Project, in general, consists of, but is not limited to Construction of the **PERIMETER FENCE RECONDITIONING/WIDENING OF CHARLIE SERVICE GATE PROJECT.** The Work involves removing the entire existing chain-link fabric and all accessories and replacing them with new chain-link fabric and accessories. It also includes the removal of the existing Charlie gate and replacing it with a new wider sliding gate all in accordance with the plans and specifications, rules and regulations of all governing agencies. The project is located at the Saipan Seaport, Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands.

A CD-Rom containing the Bid Proposal and Contract Documents, including Drawings and Specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, upon payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS ($150.00)** for each set of documents in electronic form, including the Bid Schedule. The payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. Postal money order made payable to the "Commonwealth Ports Authority".

The Project is being financed by funds from Port Security Grants from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The Contract award, if it is made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days of the receipt of Bid Proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold such Bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of Bid opening.

The Contract period for construction of the Project in its entirety shall be one hundred fifty (150) calendar days. Liquidated damages in the amount of three hundred fifty dollars ($350.00) shall be assessed the Contractor for each calendar day completion of the Project is delayed beyond the Contract completion date without approved excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Seaport Conference Room, George A. Fleming Office Building, Port of Saipan, at **10:00 a.m., Monday, MARCH 28, 2016,** to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70-25 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Government-wide Debarment and Suspension and Government-wide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ THOMAS P. VILLAGOMEZ
Acting Chairman of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: March 17, 2016

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Procurement, Delivery, Installation and Commissioning of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Compressor with Built-In Refilling Station for the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Departments at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Tinian International Airport and the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport

Project No. CPA-SA-005-16

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting sealed proposals from qualified companies to procure, deliver, install and commission a brand new self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) compressor with built-in refilling stations for the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Departments at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, the Tinian International Airport and the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. Proposals are to include procurement, delivery and installation of stations to each respective airport.

The compressor and refilling equipment shall include the quantities and details and product specifications as provided within the scope of work. The scope and product data are available for pick up at the CPA Administration Office.

The proposals shall include the following:

1. Letter of interest;
2. Team Members;
3. Related past project performance (include commendations or certifications, if available);
4. Available resources to accomplish the project;
5. Cost proposal (in itemized SOW format); and
6. Valid Business License.

The contract period for procurement and installation will be based on the contractor's proposal. However, liquidated damages of $500.00 shall be assessed the contractor for each calendar day the completion of the project is delayed beyond the acceptance date without approved excuse by CPA.

All proposals are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked with the respective RFP description to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, no later than **4:30 p.m., MONDAY, MARCH 21 , 2016.**

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a bid bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount no less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All responses to this RFP shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax.

The procurement is being financed by funds from the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold the contract award for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of receipt of proposals.

All This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 40-50-225. Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1.	Total cost for equipment procurement, delivery and programming	35%
2.	Experience of the firm on similar or related systems	35%
3.	Qualifications of the principal(s) and assigned staff	20%
4.	Timeframe for delivery, programming and commissioning	10%

Questions and inquiries regarding this Request for Proposals shall be submitted in writing and may be delivered to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at the Saipan International Airport, faxed to (670) 234-5962 or emailed to Assistant ARFF Chief William Camacho at bcamacho@cpa.gov.mp.

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: February 22, 2016

Rotary to continue supporting youth sports

The Rotary Club of Saipan renewed its commitment to supporting various sports programs especially those involving the youth. Rotary has sponsored the Rotary Youth Basketball League for more than 20 years, the last time in 2013.

Rotary's sponsorship of the annual youth league was discontinued in 2014 with the club turning the funds into grants that they donate to different sports associations that ask for their help.

The Mariana Islands Basketball Federation, formerly known as the Basketball Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, renamed the RYBL to the Francisco Diaz Youth Basketball League in honor of former Rotary president and Saipan Mayor Francisco Diaz.

"Francisco Diaz was a Rotarian for over 25 years and he loved basketball so much. We are pleased that the [MIBF] named their league after former president," said Rotary president Curtis Dancoe.

"Youth basketball on Saipan is very much alive and active. We haven't received any letter from [MIBF official] Elias Rangamar asking if they need support or if they wanted us to sponsor the league," he added.

Dancoe said that it would be nice if all the youth on Saipan would get involved in various sports and games, and not be contented in tinkering with their gadgets or mobile phones. Sports could also be a way to get higher education with colleges and universities offering scholarship programs.

"The challenge right now on Saipan is to get more youth involved in sports and other outdoor activities," said Dancoe.

He also reminded members of their upcoming Goodwill Golf Tournament set in May 28. "We have to be active in fundraisers in order to have funds for our various community programs," added Dancoe. ***(Jon Perez)***

Bridge Capital is Platinum Sponsor of Charity Golf Classic

Hyatt Regency Saipan is proud to announce Bridge Capital, LLC as a Platinum Sponsor for this year's 20th Annual Charity Golf Classic. This year, proceeds from the event go to the Make-A-Wish Foundation and the Northern Marianas Trades Institute.

BRIDGE CAPITAL, LLC
FIRST HAWAIIAN BANK
PAY TO THE ORDER OF Hyatt Regency Saipan Charity Golf Classic
$ 1,500 00
one thousand five hundred and 00/100
DOLLARS
MEMO

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Hyatt Regency Saipan Marketing Communications manager Maria Valentina Harberman, Hyatt Regency Rooms director Rosalyn Quintanilla; Bridge Capital, LLC chief financial officer Clay Crawford, Hyatt Regency Food & Beverage director Ty Pauling, Bridge Capital Human Resources manager Carmen Hasselback, and Hyatt Regency Security manager Robin Eugenio pose for a group photo.

Bridge Capital, for over 14 years, has enabled their clients to grasp and maximize financial opportunities that are otherwise unattainable. Their core mission of bridge financing has "honed their business tools and team into a flexible structure that is well-suited to the new challenges of today."

Food & Beverage Ty Pauling thanked Bridge Capital for agreeing to be a Platinum Sponsor of this year's sporting event.

"Their donation to the Charity Golf Classic will help touch the lives of local children as the Make-A-Wish Foundation continues to grant wishes as well as enhancing the lives of those who attend the Northern Marianas Trades Institute. For their support, we are sincerely thankful," he said. ***(PR)***

NOTICE OF MEETING

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE
BOARD OF REGENTS' REGULAR MEETING

Date: Wednesday, March 23, 2016
Time: 9:00a.m
Place: BOR Conference Room
Saipan Campus

AGENDA

I. Call Meeting to Order (9:00a.m – 9:30a.m)
a. Roll Call
b. Review and Adoption of Agenda
c. Review and Adoption of Minutes
1. May 22, 2015 and continued May 26, 2015 – Regular Meeting
2. January 14, 2016 - Regular Meeting
3. February 3, 2016 – Special Meeting
4. February 25, 2016 – Special Meeting

II. Public Comment Period: Individuals may orally testify on items on the agenda during the Public Comment Period. Written testimony is also accepted. Testifiers are requested to limit their testimony to five (5) minutes. (9:30a.m – 9:40a.m)

III. Chairperson's Report (9:40a.m – 9:45a.m)

IV. Reports and Action from Standing Committees (9:45a.m – 10:30a.m)
a. Fiscal Committee Report
b. Program Committee Report
c. Personnel Committee Report

V. Old Business (10:30a.m-11:30a.m)
a. Facilities Plan Report

VI. New Business (11:30a.m- 1:30p.m)

VII. NMC Executive Reports (1:30p.m – 2:30p.m)
a. President's Report
1. WASC Accreditation Update
2. Chief Financial Officer Report

VIII. Legislative Updates (2:30p.m-3:00p.m)

IX. Board Meeting Assessment (3:00p.m – 3:15p.m)

X. Miscellaneous Items

XI. Executive Session (At any time during the scheduled meeting of the Board of Regents may be required to enter into executive session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential)
a. Legal Matters
b. Personnel Matters

XII. Upcoming Board Activities (3:15p.m – 3:30p.m)
a. Upcoming Events / Activities
1. April 8&9, 2016 – Charter Day Activities
2. April 30, 2016 – 13th Annual NMC Foundation Open Golf Tournament
b. Suggested 2016 Regular Meeting BOR Dates

XIII. Adjournment (3:30p.m)

/s/ Frank M. Rabauliman Date: March 17, 2016
BOR Chairperson

Guam lawmaker's bill protecting the unborn is now public law

Legislation authored by Guam Senator Frank Blas Jr. that champions the rights of unborn children has been signed into law by Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo.

"The Unborn Victims of Violence Act of 2016" is now identified as Public Law 33-132.

"This new law recognizes a 'child in utero' as a legal victim, if he or she is injured or killed during the commission of crimes of violence," said Blas. "As a community we recognize that the physical harm or death of an expectant woman could equally result in the physical harm and death to the unborn child in her womb. For the woman who desires to carry and care for her unborn child to term, the protection and safety of the living being in her womb is something she should not have to worry about."

The public law that Blas authored was co-sponsored by 10 senators and they include: V. Anthony Ada, James V. Espaldon, Thomas Morrison, Dennis G. Rodriguez Jr., Tina Muna Barnes, Brant McCreadie, Thomas C. Ada, Rory J. Respicio, Michael F.Q. San Nicolas, Mary Camacho Torresm and Frank Blas Aguon Jr. The legislation passed last month with 14 votes in favor of the measure.

In 2004, former president George Bush signed into U.S. Public Law the Unborn Victims of Violence Act, making it a federal crime to cause intentional injury or death to an unborn child. However, the federal law only applies to certain offenses over which the United States government has jurisdiction, including certain crimes committed on federal properties, against certain federal officials and employees, and by members of the military. Additionally, the federal law covers certain crimes that are defined by statute as federal offenses wherever they occur, no matter who commits them, such as certain crimes of terrorism. Since the enactment of the law, 38 states have adopted similar legislation into their respective local law to extend the provisions of the law into state levels.

"Public Law 33-132 is a step toward protecting an expectant mother and her unborn child, and it recognizes that an unborn child is a legal victim if he or she is injured or killed during the commission of crimes of violence," Blas said.

For more information, please contact the Office of Senator Frank F. Blas Jr. at 475-2527 or via email at frank.blasjr@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs-Nutrition Assistance Program held its 3rd Annual Professional Development Training for its staff last March 11 at the Aqua Resort Club. The all-day training focused on three main critical topics: Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Sexual Harassment; Excellent Customer Service; and Team Building.

New climate change policy will lead to a more resilient Tonga by 2035

NUKU'ALOFA, Tonga—The Pacific Community (SPC) and the European Union (EU) have welcomed the endorsement by the Government of Tonga of a new national climate change policy.

The five-year policy sets out to achieve the vision of a resilient Tonga by 2035 through specific environmental, social and economic targets, ultimately aimed at increasing Tonga's resilience to the impacts of climate change.

Over the past year, Tonga's Department of Climate Change has been shaping a revised policy that directs Tonga's response to the effects of climate change and disaster risk reduction, with technical assistance through the Global Climate Change Alliance: Pacific Small Island States (GCCA: PSIS) initiative, which is supported by the European Union and implemented by SPC.

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment and Climate Change, Siaosi Sovaleni said "it is not the Tongan way to present ourselves as victims. Our people smile through adversity and continue to stand tall. This revised Climate Change Policy therefore doesn't dwell on our vulnerabilities. It is focused towards building a resilient Tonga by 2035.

"While the goal of a resilient Tonga by 2035 is ambitious, the policy objectives are achievable within the next five years," he said.

The emphasis is on re-imagining and redesigning the future of Tonga to ensure that its people are able to respond as proactively as possible to the unfolding effects of climate change.

This revised policy was widely discussed among government and civil society.

Recognizing that climate change is the single biggest issue that will determine the future of Tonga over the coming decades, the policy requires a "whole of Tonga" level of cooperation and coordination.

The Director of Climate Change, Lu'isa Tu'i'afitu Malolo, said, "rather than address climate change adaptation, mitigation and disaster risk reduction in a fragmented manner, the policy takes a holistic approach in building resilience.

"It will be implemented alongside Tonga's Joint National Action Plan on Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management II (JNAP II), which is currently being drafted, thus providing a coordinated approach to climate change resilience," she added.

Tonga submitted its Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) at the Conference of Parties (COP 21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Paris, France, in December 2015. The INDC is also aligned with this Climate Change Policy.

To access the policy visit: http://www.pacificclimatechange.net/index.php/eresources/documents?task=view&id=2411&catid=247. ***(PR)***

Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all

SUVA, Fiji—Access to accurate and reliable data and the ability to analyze and interpret those data for decision making and the formulation of energy policies are central to the effective participation of Pacific Island countries and territories in global processes such as the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement.

In an effort to address this, a five-day workshop began this week in Nuku'alofa, Tonga, jointly organised by the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Asia Pacific Energy Research Centre of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and is supported by the World Bank through its Technical Assistance on the Pacific Regional Data Repository for Sustainable Energy for All (PRDR for SE4ALL).

This workshop aims to strengthen PICTs' ability to effectively monitor and report on their progress on SDG 7 and their respective energy targets in their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions.

"It is an excellent partnership between SPC, APEC and the World Bank and we fully acknowledge the support of the Government of Tonga. In fact, we are bringing the PRDR to where it originated from, a Tonga government initiative which SPC is now implementing for the benefit of our region," SPC's Economic Development Division deputy-director, Solomone Fifita said.

"The APEC Energy Research Centre shares common interests with SPC on energy data and statistics and we look forward for more collaborations in this space," said Dr. Kaoru Yamaguchi, Senior Research Fellow at the Japan-based Centre.

The global community has adopted Goal 7 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which focuses on sustainable energy for all and commits the UN family, including Pacific Island countries and territories, to work towards three associated targets by 2020:

- Universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services
- Increase substantially the share of Renewable Energy (RE) in the global energy mix
- Double the global rate of improvement in Energy Efficiency (EE)

A global tracking framework has been put in place to trace the progress of every country in terms of these targets.

Pacific Island countries submitted their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) as part of the COP 21 process that led to the adoption of the Paris Agreement. This agreement calls for deep and urgent reduction in emissions, which PICs have acknowledged to be achieved through greater use of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies, and as part of this agreement, every party is obliged to regularly report on its progress and achievements.

It is expected that this workshop will also assist participants to better use energy security indicators to monitor their progress on the Framework for Pacific Regionalism as well as the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway.

The workshop runs until today, March 18. ***(PR)***

Moses "Mo" D. Williams

April 30, 1940 – March 04, 2016

Join us to celebrate and remember Moses' life

Saturday, March 19, 2016 at 10:00 to 12 noon

Borja Funeral Home – San Jose, Saipan

On March 21, 2016 the remains of our beloved Moses will be flown to Palau, where he will be laid to rest at his home island of Peleliu.

Sulang, Thank you, Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Ghilisow, & Salamat Po

Emi, Loly, Jeremy, Andy, Sadaria W. Fritz & Family

In Humble Gratitude

We, the children and family of the late

†Virginia Norita Mahora,

wish to express our most sincere and profound appreciation to all our relatives and friends for being with us during our time of overwhelming grief and sorrow.

There are no words that can adequately express the feeling in our hearts. Your thoughts and prayers, along with comforting words of sympathy, kind gestures, love and support will always be cherished and remembered.

From the bottom of our hearts, we humbly thank each and every one of you. May God continue to bless us all with His everlasting love.

The Children and Family

Life & Style

MHS POLKSAI sweeps Chamorro language tilt in Guam

The Marianas High School POLKSAI Chamorro Club swept the 2016 Inacha'igen Fino Chamorro Language Competition in Guam. It was the club's 11th time to compete in this event. It was a great success as the team garnered the following awards:

- 1st - Speech (Luis Cepeda)
- 1st - Poetry (Karen Agulto)
- 1st -Female Singer (Monica Lizama)
- 2nd-Male Singer (Jesse Sablan)
- 1st - Proficiency (Kena Muna),
- 2nd-Proficiency (Monica Lizama)
- 3rd - Proficiency (Jack Nicholas Rabago)
- 1st - Song with Dance (Karen Agulto, Monica Lizama, Jeszerre Seman, Ninfa Rabago, Jose Carreon, Luis Cepeda, Christopher Jay Terlaje, Almondo Franco Santos, Jack Nicholas Rabago, Jesse Sablan)
- 1st - Dramatical Interpretation Skit (Joshalyn Flores, Christian Ayuyu, Jimmy Santos, Kierah Lee, Marianna Teregeyo, Jessa Sonoda, Jack Nicholas Rabago, Jenalien Jonathan, Kena Muna, Jesse Sablan)
- 1st - Kantan Chamorrita (Kierah Lee, Monica Lizama, Ninfa Rabago, Jose Carreon, Jack Nicholas Rabago, Almondo Franco Santos, Jimmy Santos, Christopher Jay Terlaje, Isa Cabrera, Ciprianna Songao)

Anita Sablan, the club advisor and coach commented, "the 2016 Inacha'igen Chamorro Language Competition was a success as our team garnered seven gold, two silver, and a bronze. The 2016 Inacha'igen Fino Chamorro Theme is I FINO' CHAMORU: I Guiniahå-ta, Iyo-ta, Ta Fanana'I (The CHamoru Language: Our Abundance and Ours to Share With One Another). All the categories that they competed in focused and emphasized on the theme."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of Marianas High School POLKSAI Chamorro Club pose for a group shot after dominating the 2016 Inacha'igen Fino Chamorro Language Competition in Guam with a medal haul of seven gold, two silver, and a bronze.

Since 2003, POLKSAI Chamorro Club has been competing in this annual Chamorro language competition.

Sablan said participation in this annual event requires numerous fundraising and long hours of practice. In the end, the members embraced their experience because it gives them the opportunity to practice their language and perpetuate their culture.

The advisors and coaches would like to thank the participants' respective families for supporting their child and the community supporters for their monetary contribution: Public School System, Rep. Angel Demapan, Rep. Edmund Villagomez, Rep. BJ Attao, Rep. Anthony Benavente, Rep. Edwin Propst, Rep. Ralph Yumul, Rep. Roman Benavente, Rep. Francis Taimanao, BOMAT, Lucky R Catering, St. Jude Renal Care, Quickprint, Supreme Justices Dinner Performance at PIC, and many others.

"Without your financial support, our club would not have made it to Guam to compete in this event. MHS POLKSAI Chamorro Club would also like to thank Senot Luis John Castro for his support by being the dance instructor for the group. This will be the fourth year in a roll that the team garnered 1st Place for Song with Dance under his direction. They sincerely thank you for your dedication," said Sablan.

When asked about the meaning and vision of the club, Alvin Sablan, club advisor and coach, first shared the acronym for POLKSAI. He said the acronym stands for Protehi, Onra, Lengguahi, Kutturan Sa'ipan, Ataha Inasan Chamorro. POLKSAI means to protect and honor the language and culture of Saipan and to prevent the disappearance of the Chamorro culture. POLKSAI Chamorro Club was formed in 2002 with the vision of its founder, the late Lumi R. Bermudes, of perpetuating the language and culture of the Marianas indigenous people. MHS POLKSAI will forever keep the vision and purpose of this club and would like to thank Bermudes for inspiring and supporting the club.

Because of their hard work, commitment, and dedication, the MHS POLKSAI was prepared for this competition. Some of the preparation involved the club members writing a song for the Kantan Chamorrita event, writing a skit for the Dramatic Interpretation event, memorizing and reciting a poem provided by the organizing committee, creating a medley using J.J. Concepcion's songs for a song with dance event, writing, memorizing, and reciting a speech with the help of Bermudes, and practicing selected songs for the male and female singing event. As for the proficiency, students need to understand, read, and speak the Chamorro language.

"Congratulations MHS POLKSAI Chamorro club—continue to speak the language and perpetuate your culture," said Alvin Sablan.

MHS POLKSAI Chamorro would also like to honor its late founder Bermudes for inspiring them to perpetuate the Chamorro culture and to speak the Chamorro language.

Members also shared their experience during the tilt.

"I got the opportunity to compete in the Dramatic Interpretation (skit) category in which I had to speak Chamorro and sang a Chamorro song as a group for the Kantan Chamorrita event. It was a great experience for me because I learned how to sing a Chamorrita Song, which was popular before our island became conquered. I sacrifice a lot of my time and I feel it was worthwhile because I learned a lot about the Chamorro language and culture," said Kierah Lee.

Luis Cepeda also stated, "This was my second time competing. I competed last year for the speech and garnered fourth place but this year I won first place. I also competed in the song with dance category, where I placed first. I love dancing. Through dancing, I learned a great deal about the ancient Chamorro and the motivation to continue to perpetuate the Chamorro culture."

Joshalyn Flores also recounted her experience during the Dramatic Interpretation competition.

"I was the grandma in the skit. Our skit was inspired from Typhoon Soudelor where technology distracted the teenagers from helping around the house and practicing one's culture. Typhoon took place and with that it brought the family together—learning the culture and survival skills. I enjoyed the many hours of practicing because it let to victory," she said.

Almondo Franco, for his part, said he will savor the recent completion because it's his last.

"This is my third year competing and will be last time because I am graduating this year. The first year I joined the club and competed it was a new atmosphere and learning experience of the Chamorro language and culture. We garnered a lot of awards and it continued to this year's competition. I enjoyed all those years of competing and being a part of the MHS POLKSAI Chamorro Club." ***(PR)***

Dad is disturbed by his ex's revolving door relationships

DEAR ABBY: I was in a six-year relationship with a woman. We shared a home and have a child together, whom I support. She has primary custody, and I provide financial support and exercise my visitations regularly.

We broke up six months ago and she immediately moved a man into the house. Since they split up, she has done this again with a new person.

I have moved on and am content being single and focusing on my career and parenting my son when he's with me. Where I struggle is when these new men want to meet me. I don't feel obligated to shake their hands, be polite and friendly or be a supportive, smiling face.

I'm disturbed by the speed she moves into other relationships. I feel like it sets a bad example for my son regardless of how "nice" these men are. There is no record of abuse, and I do believe my ex is a good mother, just maybe lonely and very dependent on having companionship.

I understand life goes on and people move on, but at what point is this unhealthy? Am I wrong for not wanting to be friends with my ex and her new "guy friend" whenever she decides she should be accompanied for custody exchange? I refuse to speak to or acknowledge these men. I am not confrontational, but I literally have nothing to say. Any advice how to handle this moving forward?

FAKING SMILES

DEAR FAKING SMILES: I subscribe to the philosophy that one can never have enough friends. You don't have to approve of your ex's boyfriends, but it is in your child's best interest to maintain a relationship that approximates cordiality. It won't hurt you to shake hands and be on a first-name basis with the men who occupy space in your son's life even temporarily. When we can't change something, sometimes we have to accept it—and that's what you would be wise to do.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I'm sure there are many others who would like to know this: I'm trying to downsize. I have a World Book Encyclopedia set from the '70s, plus yearbooks I'd like to find a home for. My kids are gone and living on their own, and the books haven't been opened in years. I refuse to throw them in the recycling bin. Any ideas?

JOY IN NEW YORK

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR JOY: I did a quick search online to see what other people might be doing with their old encyclopedias. A solution popped up that might help you: Immigrants who are learning English as a second language may be able to use them if you offer them in a yard sale. A high school in your area might also be able to use them.

■■■

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

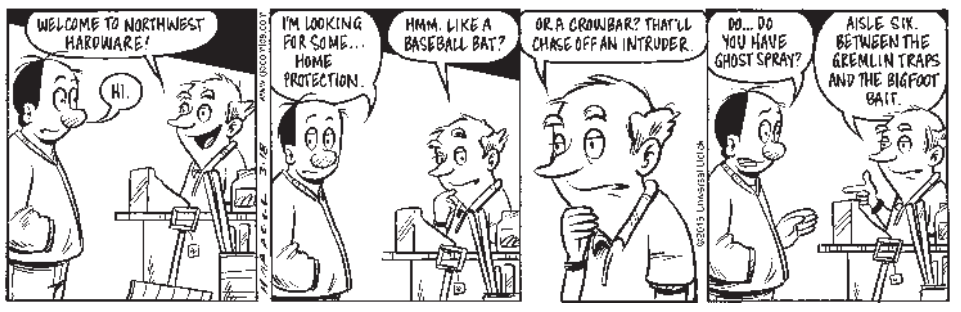
A LITTLE LOWER...OK, FINE!
THANKS FOR HELPING ME PUT UP THIS SWING.
WHERE DID YOU EVER FIND THIS GREAT TIRE?
CALVIN! I'VE GOT TO GO TO WORK!!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

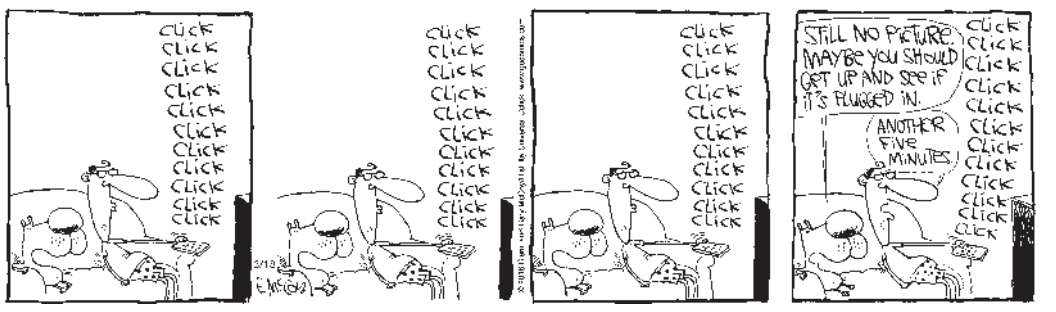
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


WELCOME TO NORTHWEST HARDWARE!
HI.
I'M LOOKING FOR SOME... HOME PROTECTION.
HMM. LIKE A BASEBALL BAT?
OR A CROWBAR? THAT'LL CHASE OFF AN INTRUDER.
DO... DO YOU HAVE GHOST SPRAY?
AISLE SIX. BETWEEN THE GREMLIN TRAPS AND THE BIGFOOT BAIT.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Made crow noises
6 Soda
9 Bearded beast
12 Chicago airport
13 Wyo. neighbor
14 Grafton's "— for Ricochet"
15 Italian cheese city
16 Biblical giant
18 Cater to others' wants
20 Ersatz swing
21 Alias abbr.
23 "No seats" sign
24 Estate house
25 Favorites
27 Ear bone
29 Papeete's island
31 Van Gogh painting
35 Bistro handouts
37 Bivouac
38 Stinky
41 Numbered rd.
43 Purchase
44 Skater's leap
45 Ornamental beetle
47 Under
49 Prediploma hurdles
52 PC screen type
53 Muumuu accessory
54 Time stamp
55 Curved letter
56 Bristle
57 Group character

DOWN

1 Officer
2 "Caught ya!"
3 Road to battle
4 Ms. Bombeck
5 College VIPs
6 Urban bird
7 Bloodhound's clue
8 Chum
9 Sand unit
10 Part of TNT
11 Leading man?
17 Slanted type
19 Sink outlet
21 Suitable
22 Mauna —
24 Soviet space station
26 "Hard as nails," for one
28 Panorama
30 Actor Danson
32 Day of rest
33 Ostrich's kin
34 CIA operative
36 Ragamuffin
38 Aesopian tale
39 Biz bigwigs
40 Looks after
42 Wear down
45 Leftovers recipe
46 Smell — (suspect)
48 Carte lead-in
50 Author Tolstoy
51 Soon-to-be grads

Solution time: 26 mins.

B	E	L	L	■	B	U	G	■	I	N	I	I
C	L	E	O	■	E	R	A	■	C	E	D	E
L	I	E	L	■	E	L	L	■	O	W	L	S
T	A	R	I	F	F	■	L	E	N	S	E	S
■	■	■	S	A	S	■	■	V	I	C	■	■
B	O	C	A	■	I	Y	P	E	C	A	S	I
I	R	A	■	■	E	E	L	■	■	S	R	I
C	A	S	T	A	W	A	Y	■	A	T	O	M
■	■	■	T	A	R	■	M	A	R	■	■	■
T	R	I	C	K	Y	■	O	I	I	V	F	S
W	O	R	K	■	E	M	U	■	O	A	R	S
I	D	O	L	■	L	I	T	■	S	I	L	T
G	E	N	E	■	L	A	H	■	O	N	E	S

Yesterday's answer 3-18

1	2	3	4	5	■	6	7	8	■	9	10	11
12					■	13			■	14		
15					■	16			17			
■	■	18			19			■	20			
21	22		■	23			■	24				
25			26	■	27		28			■	■	■
29				30		■	31			32	33	34
■	■	■	35			36		■	37			
38	39	40			■	41		42	■	43		
44				■	45				46		■	■
47				48			■	49			50	51
52			■	53				54				
55			■	56			■	57				

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lily Collins, 27; Adam Levine, 37; Queen Latifah, 46; Vanessa Williams, 53.

Happy Birthday: Progressive thinking will keep you in the game and on the road to victory. Don't let the little things bog you down. Look at the big picture and strive to reach your goals. Good fortune is within reach and will come from a most unusual source. Take care of personal matters quickly and don't leave anything to chance. Pay close attention to details. Your numbers are 7, 11, 18, 23, 28, 34, 48.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Be vocal and set the record straight. Share openly and with passion. Once you have made your position clear, others will know where you stand and how to encourage you to reach your objective. Your friends will help you make the right choice. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Make some needed alterations to your domestic environment, and try to free up your time for more pleasurable pastimes. Romance is on the rise. Make special plans to get together with your loved ones. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Problems will surface if you differ from the norm. Try to work alone or look for a spiritual or physical outlet that will help you put any stress-related situations out of mind. Make personal perfection your goal. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Reach for the top of the mountain you are trying to climb. Don't be afraid to go beyond your comfort zone to find answers or solutions to any problems you face. Love should be your priority. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Stick to what you know and do best. You will capture attention if you go above and beyond what's expected of you. Someone who can help you advance will show interest in what else you have to say and offer. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Make your money work for you. Don't take a risk when there are better ways to make a profit without sacrificing your peace of mind. Practicality coupled with doing things your way will be your ticket to financial freedom. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Evaluate your personal and professional relationships and consider who is helpful and who isn't. You can make subtle changes that will give you more time to spend with the people who can be a positive influence in your life. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Your magnetic personality will impress some people, but it will also drum up jealousy in others. A humble, gracious approach to whatever you do or say will help you temper any discord that may arise. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Embellishing the truth in order to be entertaining will backfire. Stick to the facts and don't get ahead of yourself. If you are honest, you will impress the people who are the most important to you. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Explore something you are not familiar with, and you will discover a new way to handle some difficulties you are currently facing. Reach inside and question your motives, and you will be able to make a constructive change. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Put more energy into achieving your personal goals. Set up a routine or get into a program that will help you look and be at your best. An emotional relationship will improve if you get involved in a joint endeavor. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Stick to your original plan. If you are too ambitious, you could end up putting yourself in debt. Take care of your health and well-being, and avoid taking unnecessary risks that can lead to physical injury. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are imaginative, proactive and engaging. You are daring and permissive.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	8			5			7	
1			6		2	8		5
	3							
	7			9			6	
8								7
	5			6			1	
							9	
5		2	1		9			6
	6			3			5	

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 3/18

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

2	4	7	3	6	1	8	5	9
3	6	8	9	5	2	1	7	4
1	5	9	4	8	7	2	3	6
5	8	4	2	3	6	7	9	1
6	7	1	5	9	8	4	2	3
9	3	2	1	7	4	5	6	8
4	9	5	8	2	3	6	1	7
7	1	3	6	4	5	9	8	2
8	2	6	7	1	9	3	4	5

Difficulty Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

LIFE AS AN AMBASSADOR Solution: 8 letters

D	R	L	A	C	C	U	R	A	T	E	N	V	O	Y
I	E	F	E	P	R	O	T	E	C	T	E	O	F	S
P	S	T	O	V	D	E	T	I	N	U	G	N	I	S
L	O	E	I	R	A	D	V	I	S	E	O	N	G	A
O	L	M	S	D	E	Ⓡ	Ⓐ	Ⓝ	Ⓚ	I	T	O	U	B
M	U	P	S	O	E	I	T	N	T	E	I	I	I	M
A	T	O	T	S	C	R	G	A	R	H	A	T	D	E
T	I	R	A	F	A	I	C	N	T	O	T	A	E	S
R	O	A	T	D	E	I	A	C	S	S	E	L	L	S
O	N	R	E	R	N	T	N	L	A	T	U	E	T	E
P	S	Y	E	U	I	F	I	F	I	S	H	R	I	N
P	C	V	M	O	F	I	A	L	O	Z	S	G	T	G
U	O	M	N	A	T	I	O	N	S	R	I	I	I	E
S	O	A	T	R	E	T	S	I	N	I	M	N	S	R
C	L	S	N	O	I	S	S	I	M	M	O	C	G	T

©2016 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 3/18

Accredited, Accurate, Advise, Assist, Commissions, Communication, Diplomat, Embassy, Envoy, Foreign, Guide, Host, Inform, International, Messenger, Minister, Nations, Negotiate, Protect, Rank, Relation, Resolutions, Rights, Service, Socializing, Sovereign, Staff, State, Support, Temporary, Title, Trade, Travel, Trust, United

Yesterday's Answer: Seafloor

Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition is back by popular demand! Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 120 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution: Part of the furniture

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Find today's solution in classified section

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

American Trading Saipan Corp.
DBA: Twins Supermarket

(4) Cashier - $6.05/hr.
(2) Store Manager - $6.25/hr.
(1) General Manger - $6.75/hr.
(3) Stocker - $6.05/hr.
(2) Supervisor - $6.25/hr.

For interested applicants, please call 235-8989

Backhoe for Rent
For inquiries, please call
285-0478
• Security Services • Heavy Equipment Rental
• General Help Supply Services • Auto & Heavy Equipment Repair Shop

Warehouse for RENT
REM LOWERBASE
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(2) Car Rental Agent
• Chinese speaker required
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WANTED IMMEDIATELY

Receptionist/ Front Desk Clerk

With minimum 2 years experience
Salary will commensurate with applicant's knowledge and experience

Interested applicants may pick up an application form at H.S Lee Construction, Co. Inc. office, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM; located at the second floor of Highway Express Auto Shop Building in Middle Road.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

All Around Auto Mechanic

- With minimum 2 years of experience
- Salary will commensurate for applicant's knowledge and experience

Interested applicants may pick up an application form from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Ground floor building of D&W Saipan Inc. dba Highway Express Auto Shop in Middle Road.

WANTED

Cement Supervisor
Salary: $7.73 per hour
Must have cement handling equipment experience

Apply in person at
Hanson Micronesia Cement Inc., Puerto Rico

Cement Laborer
Cement handling equipment experience preferred.
Will train motivated individuals
Wages based on experience

Apply in person at
Hanson Micronesia Cement Inc.
Tel: 670 322-3333

L & F INC.
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Accountant - $6.30
- Bachelor's degree in Accounting
- Knowledge in Peach Tree software
- 5 years of experience required

Building Repairer Maintenance - $6.05
- 5 years experience

(2) Maintenance Repairer - $6.05
- 5 years experience in Rod/Reel and Gun repairs

Administrative Assistant - $6.05
- Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration
- With experience in bookkeeping
- 5 years experience required

Applicants must be able to work flexible hours and must have a valid CNMI driver's license.

Please email resume to info@fishingtacklesaipan.com no later than March 28, 2016.

BRIDGE INVESTMENT GROUP, LLC

Opening Date: March 14, 2016 **Closing Date:** March 18, 2016

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Position: (1) Draftsman
Salary: $9.00 - $10.00 per hour or higher based on experience and qualifications
Qualification: Bachelor's Degree, (3) yrs. experience

Link http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/17-3011.01
If interested and think you meet the qualification, please fax résumé to (670) 433-4329 or email to BIGConstructionJobs@gmail.com or simply stop by our office located above Bank of Guam, Tinian.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

PKM Corporation
DBA: Saipan Store II

(2) Supervisor - $6.25/hr.
(3) Cashier - $6.05/hr.
(3) Stocker - $6.05/hr.
(2) Manager - $6.50/hr.

For interested applicants, please call 233-0205

TINIAN FUEL SERVICES, INC
P.O. Box 520800, Tinian, MP 96952
Tel. (670) 433-4427; Fax. (670) 433-4329

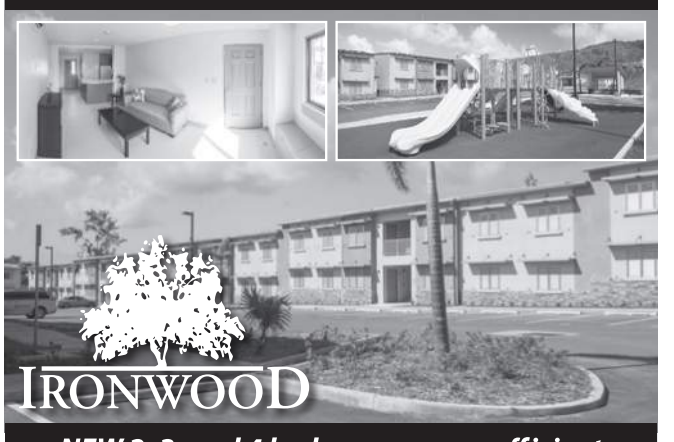
JOB VACANCY ANNOUCEMENT

Open Date: March 15, 2016
Close Date: March 21, 2016

Position: (2) Welder
Salary: $6.05 - $6.55 per hour
Qualification: High School Diploma
Link: http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/51-4121.06

Fax resume to (670) 433-4329 on or before March 21, 2016

SECTION 8 VOUCHER ACCEPTED



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Legislative Bureau
NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586, SAIPAN, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Examination Announcement Number: LB-JVA-16-001
PL-UNGRADED: $777.26 B/W
Position: Assistant Sergeant at Arms
Opening Date: March 15, 2016
Closing Date: March 31, 2016

The salary will be determined by the qualification of the appointee
Location: Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan

General Duties:
- Responsible for the safety & security of members of the Legislature;
- Attends all session, public hearings and any other legislative meeting as designated by the Presiding Officer;
- Records and maintains the Chamber's legislative meetings as scheduled and maintains order and security during sessions and meetings;
- Delivers official documents, serves subpoenas, and performs other duties as instructed by the Presiding Officer, official rules, or other legislative authority;
- Prepares the chamber prior to scheduled legislative meetings and maintains its security during the interim;
- Inspects and operates the chamber's sound/video system and responsible for the maintenance of the chamber;
- Records and maintains visitor's log sheet on a daily basis; and
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Requirements:
- Must have completed a Law Enforcement Academy and undergo and complete yearly required certifications pursuant to CNMI law; and
- Must undergo a complete Psychological Evaluation;
- Have knowledge of rules, general procedures, customs and courtesies of the CNMI Legislature and general principles of law enforcement; procedures and techniques of maintaining order, security and protocol of a legislative body; and
- Maintains good working conduct and is willing to work regularly after normal working hours.

Education requirements may be substituted with related experience

Education and training claimed under item 19(A) through 19(F) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by a copy of an official diploma and/or certificate. **Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. All applicants may be subject to further interviews and examinations(i.e. writing assignment) to determine qualification.**

Employment application may be accessed at www.cnmileg.gov.mp or may be picked up at the Office of the Director of the Legislative Bureau located at the Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan. Completed application and police clearance may be submitted to the Office of the Director or may be mailed, postmarked no later than the closing date to the Office of the Director; Legislative Bureau; P.O. Box 500586; Saipan, MP 96950. No telephone inquiries.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 16-020

Opening Date: Friday, February 26, 2016
Closing Date: Until Filled

Executive Director

Duties: Work under the direct supervision of the Board of Directors or his/her designee. Supervises staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff is trained; ensuring that employees follow policies and procedures; maintaining a healthy and safe working environment; and, making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations. Assumes full management responsibility for all of CUC's divisions and services. Directs and oversees the strategic planning, development and implementation of programs and services; directs operations within financial constraints and in accordance with CUC policies, regulations, and under the direction of the Board. Monitors and evaluates efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery methods and processes; assesses and monitors service delivery levels; identifies opportunities, weaknesses and strengths of divisions; directs the implementation of changes. Plans, directs and coordinates work of divisions through the upper management team by meeting with management to identify, prioritize and resolve problems. Manages the development and implementation of goals, objectives, missions, policies, priorities and allocations of resources. Participates on a variety of board and committees and attends a wide variety of management meetings. Performs short and long-range strategic planning. Prepares and submits annual budget recommendations and financial analysis for Board approval; implements, communicates and administers approved budget; ensures fiscal compliance. Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

LOCATION(S) : **Saipan**, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : Based on credentials and specialized experience as a utility executive in a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, and/or the District of Columbia.
CONTRACT : Two-year, subject to renewal.
POSITION(S) : One (1).

Minimum Requirements:
Successful candidates for CUC's Executive Director must have the following:

- Education or Education/License Combination:
  - Master's degree in management, engineering, finance, or public administration, "OR", in the alternative, a bachelor's degree in engineering and registration as a Professional Engineer pursuant to the National Council of Engineering Examiners standards in either the civil, mechanical, or electrical branch;
- Experience:
  - Senior management experience of at least ten (10) years in a similar wastewater, drinking water, and/or power utility (preferably combined utility), with similar or greater capital and operating budgets, capital improvement projects, human resource needs, utility financing issues, operation and maintenance training and implementation needs.
  - In addition, the Executive Director (ED) shall demonstrated the following: Proven management and communication skills;
  - Demonstrated ability to lead, motivate, and develop staff;
  - Experience with managing major drinking water and wastewater systems during periods of planning, design, and construction; and Experience with drinking water and wastewater systems; user fee system development; bond funding; staff training and development; and federal drinking water and wastewater requirements.
- Knowledge of:
  - Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances;
  - Advanced managerial principles, practices and techniques;
  - Leadership principles;
  - Utility service administration principles and practices;
  - Financial management and forecasting principles;
  - Strategy development principles and procedures;
  - Contract management principles;
  - Risk management principles;
  - Customer service principles;
  - Project management principles;
  - Modern office technology.
- Skill in:
  - Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards;
  - Managing, monitoring, and evaluating subordinates;
  - Providing organizational leadership and administration;
  - Developing and executing strategic plans, programs, and policies;
  - Planning and oversight of organizational programs and functions;
  - Providing strategic and visionary thinking;
  - Providing short and long-range planning, development and implementation;
  - Forecasting, developing and administering organization budget;
  - Critical thinking and independent decision making;
  - Providing legal, policy and contractual compliance oversight;
  - Serving as organization representative to management, the Board and external stakeholders;
  - Preparing and delivering public presentations;
  - Providing fiscally sound decision making;
  - Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications;
  - Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.
- Driver's License:
  - Must have a CNMI driver's license or one from a U.S. jurisdiction.

RELOCATION EXPENSES: If hired from outside the CNMI, relocation expenses are negotiable; but they are not to exceed $5,000.00 for moving to Saipan and not to exceed $5,000.00 for moving away from Saipan. Receipts will be required for justification. Other conditions may be applicable.

SUBMISSION PROCESS: To apply, please submit a resume, cover letter, a list of references, and a CUC Employment Application by one of the following means:

1. United States Postal Service, First Class Mail or Priority Mail*:

   Human Resource Office
   Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
   P. O. Box 501220
   Saipan, MP 96950-1220 USA

   *If you choose to submit via USPS, please still also fax "or" email "or" drop off your package.

2. Fax: 670-235-5131

3. Drop Off:

   Drop off your package at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the CUC Tinian or Rota Administration Office.

POLICIES: The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is an equal opportunity provider and employer and will not discriminate or tolerate discrimination against any employee or applicant in any manner prohibited by law.

It is also the policy of CUC to achieve a drug-free workplace and persons selected for employment will be required to pass a drug test which screens for illegal drug use prior to final appointment.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A. • Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 16-021

Opening Date: Friday, February 26, 2016
Closing Date: Until Filled

Deputy Executive Director
(Water & Wastewater)

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation ("CUC") is seeking for a qualified Deputy Executive Director ("DED"). CUC is a public utility corporation located on the island of Saipan in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("CNMI")—a United States territory in the northwestern Pacific Ocean.

The CNMI is a tropical paradise of fourteen islands. In the CNMI you can escape to a place of magnificent beaches and crystal clear aqua waters, and rich history. Saipan offers year-round outdoor activities, world class diving and golfing, international shopping, a range of ethnic restaurants and a cacophony of indigenous and international cultures.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND OPPORTUNITY OFFERED:
Reporting directly to CUC's Executive Director or designee, the Deputy Executive Director ("DED") fills a position required by the Stipulated Order ("SO") of the United States of America vs. the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, Civil Case No. CV 08-0051.

- Primarily responsible for overseeing, all drinking water and wastewater operations and compliance activities and deliverables, on a daily basis, as required by the Stipulated Order. Responsible for maintaining regular contact with EPA staff regarding CWA and SDWA compliance issues. Has authority to make decisions for management and operations of the drinking water and wastewater systems.
- Supervises staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff is trained; and, making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations.
- Provides staff assistance to the Executive Director to include: coordinating activities between CUC and outside organizations and agencies; researching and preparing recommendations on operational directives; and, preparing and presenting staff reports.
- Assumes full management responsibility over divisions as delegated by the Executive Director. Plans, directs and coordinates work of divisions through department heads by meeting with management to identify, prioritize and resolve problems.
- Directs and implements maintenance plans; evaluates maintenance programs to ensure maintenance standards are enforced.
- Participates on a variety of boards and committees and attends a wide variety of management meetings.
- Serves as the Executive Director when the Executive Director is out of the CNMI.
- Performs short and long-range strategic planning.
- Other duties of a similar nature or level as assigned or required.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:
Successful candidates for CUC's Deputy Executive Director must have the following:

- Education:
  - Master's degree in management, engineering, finance or public administration, "OR", in the alternative, a bachelor's degree in engineering "and" registration as a Professional Engineer pursuant to the National Council of Engineering Examiners standards in either the civil, mechanical, or electrical branch. [With your cover letter or resume, please provide a copy or verification of your education and/or registration.]
- Experience:
  - Senior management experience of at least ten (10) years desired in similar wastewater and drinking water utility (combined utility is preferred), with similar or greater capital and operating budgets, capital improvement projects, human resources needs, utility financing issues, operation and maintenance training, and implementation needs. [With your cover letter or resume, please provide information supporting your professional background and work assignments showing senior management experience. Please cite duration, responsibility level, duties, position, and other relevant experience substantiating senior management experience.]
- Certification and Licensing:
  - A Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator's Certificate is desired, but not mandatory.
  - Ability to obtain and maintain a CNMI driver's license of the appropriate class upon hire is required.
- Must demonstrate:
  - Proven management and communications skills;
  - Demonstrated ability to lead, motivate, and develop staff;
  - Experience with managing major water and wastewater systems during periods of planning, design, and construction;
  - Experience with water and wastewater systems, user fee system development, bond funding, staff training and development, and federal drinking water and wastewater requirements.
  - Experience with user fee system development and bond funding is desired, but not mandatory.
- Knowledge of:
  - Leadership principles;
  - Supervisory principles;
  - Strategic planning principles;
  - Budgetary principles;
  - Project management principles;
  - Applicable laws, rules and regulations.
- Skill in:
  - Monitoring and evaluating staff;
  - Prioritizing and assigning work to staff;
  - Preparing and administering budgets;
  - Developing and administering strategic plans;
  - Managing large, complex projects;
  - Giving presentations;
  - Preparing technical reports;
  - Using computers and related software applications;
  - Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

SALARY INFORMATION: Based on credentials and specialized experience as a water and wastewater utility senior manager (executive) in a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, and/or the District of Columbia.

POSITION: One (1).

CONTRACT: Two-year; subject to renewal.

RELOCATION EXPENSES: If hired from outside the CNMI, relocation expenses are negotiable; but they are not to exceed $5,000.00 for moving to Saipan and not to exceed $5,000.00 for moving away from Saipan. Receipts will be required for justification. Other conditions may be applicable.

SUBMISSION PROCESS: These applicants are welcomed and encouraged to contact Human Resources to confirm such inclusion and/or to update their submission. All applicants are should review the minimum requirements and present an application package that clearly addresses such requirements. Applicants are asked to please submit (1) a cover letter, (2) a resume, (3) a list of references, and (4) a CUC Employment Application by one of the following means:

1. United States Postal Service, First Class Mail or Priority Mail*:

   Human Resource Office
   Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
   P. O. Box 501220
   Saipan, MP 96950-1220 USA

   *If you choose to submit via USPS, please still also fax "or" email "or" drop off your package.

2. Fax: 670-235-5131
3. Email: employment.applications@cucgov.org
4. Drop Off: Drop off your package at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the CUC Tinian or Rota Administration Office.

POLICIES: The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is an equal opportunity provider and employer and will not discriminate or tolerate discrimination against any employee or applicant in any manner prohibited by law.

It is also the policy of CUC to achieve a drug-free workplace and persons selected for employment will be required to pass a drug test which screens for illegal drug use prior to final appointment.

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Warriors stretch home win streak to 50

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Stephen Curry scored 34 points and the Golden State Warriors extended their record regular-season home winning streak to 50 games with a 121-85 victory over the New York Knicks on Wednesday night.

Curry shot 8 for 13 from long range and 12 of 20 from the floor overall before sitting out the fourth quarter with his team up big. The reigning MVP hit 3-pointers on three straight possessions late in the first quarter and on two in a row at the end of the third as the Warriors improved to 32-0 at Oracle Arena this season.

Klay Thompson scored 19 points with five 3s and Marreese Speights added 13 with three 3s off the bench as Golden State (61-6) stayed one game ahead of the 1995-96 Bulls' pace in their record 72-win season.

Carmelo Anthony had 18 points, six rebounds and six assists for the Knicks.

Curry banked in an off-balance 3 as the shot clock expired late in the third, then hit one from the baseline moments later. Already the first player in NBA history with 300 3s during a season, he has 330 with 15 games to go.

Draymond Green, who had a triple-double at New York on Jan. 31 in which he made all nine of his field goals, finished with six points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists.

During one stretch, the Warriors had four 3s in five trips down the floor late in the first and made eight straight shots to build a commanding lead they never relinquished in a fourth straight victory against the Knicks. Golden State wound up 18 for 37 from deep, 48.6 percent.

With his 1,518th 3 late in the second quarter, Curry moved past Mike Bibby (1,517) for 24th place on the NBA career list.

Cavaliers 99, Maverics 88

In Cleveland, Kyrie Irving scored 33 points and made a key steal in the closing seconds, leading the Cleveland Cavaliers -without resting LeBron James— to a 99-98 win over the Dallas Mavericks on Wednesday night.

James was given the night off by coach Tyronn Lue as part of his plans to keep Cleveland's starters fresh for the playoffs. The Cavs hardly missed their star until the Mavericks stormed back from an 18-point deficit in the fourth quarter.

Dallas had several chances to take the lead, but the Mavericks missed two open 3-pointers and had a costly turnover before Irving swiped a pass intended for Dirk Nowitzki with 2.9 seconds left. Irving was fouled and made two free throws before Dallas' Deron Williams hit a 3-pointer at the final horn to conclude a frenzied finish.

Bulls 117, Wizards 96

In Washington, finally playing as if its chance at a playoff berth was on the line, which it is, Washington picked up its second consecutive lopsided victory over a team just ahead of them in the standings, beating Derrick Rose's Chicago behind John Wall's triple-double.

Wall, an All-Star point guard, produced 29 points, 12 assists and 10 rebounds, outplaying Rose, who returned after missing two games with a strained left groin and finished with 16 points and four assists.

Thunder 130, Celtics 109

In Boston, Kevin Durant had 28 points, nine assists and seven rebounds in just over three quarters, helping Oklahoma City cruise over Boston.

Russell Westbrook scored 24 points and Enes Kanter had 17 points and 12 rebounds for the Thunder, who had lost six of their last 10 games.

Isaiah Thomas led Boston with 29 points, and Tyler Zeller had 16. The Celtics lost their third straight after winning six of seven. It was their most lopsided home loss this season.

AP

Golden State Warriors' Leandro Barbosa, left, lays up a shot past New York Knicks' Kristaps Porzingis (6) during the second half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, March 16, 2016, in Oakland, Calif.

Durant has scored 20 or more points in 60 of the 61 games he's played this season, including 53 straight. He came out with just under nine minutes to play.

Clippers 122, Rockets 106

In Houston, DeAndre Jordan had 23 points and 14 rebounds, and Los Angeles opened up a large halftime lead and never relented en route to a victory over Houston.

Jordan finished 8 of 8 from the floor, with six dunks. JJ Redick added 25 points, including 14 in the first quarter, going 5 of 9 from the 3-point line.

Chris Paul had 15 points and 15 assists for the Clippers (43-24), who shot 56 percent. Jamal Crawford had 14 points and seven assists; and Luc Mbah a Moute, Austin Rivers and Wesley Johnson each had 12 points as the Clippers snapped a two-game skid.

Timberwolves 114, Grizzlies 108

In Memphis, Zach LaVine scored 28 points, Karl-Anthony Towns had 18 points and 10 rebounds and Minnesota beat short-handed Memphis.

Memphis pulled within 108-104 with 1:12 remaining but then Towns scored four straight points to stop the rally. Anthony Wiggins had 16 points for the Timberwolves, while Gorgui Dieng and Ricky Rubio added 15 points each. Rubio added 11 assists.

LaVine was 11 of 19 in the game and matched a career high with six 3-pointers on 10 attempts.

Hornets 107, Magic 99

In Charlotte, Marvin Williams and Nicolas Batum each scored 26 points and Charlotte beat Orlando to finish its homestand with a 6-1 record.

Williams added nine rebounds and four 3-pointers, while Batum had nine assists and seven rebounds for the Hornets, who have won 14 of their last 17. Cody Zeller had his fourth double-double of the season with 13 points and 13 rebounds.

Kemba Walker chipped in with 16 points and eight rebounds.

The Hornets are one game behind Miami for the fourth-best record in the Eastern Conference.

Hawks 118, Pistons 114

In Auburn Hills, Jeff Teague scored 22 points, including two crucial free throws with 17.9 seconds left, and Atlanta held off Detroit for its sixth win in seven games.

Atlanta went on a 10-0 run late in the fourth quarter to take a 113-104 lead, then let the Pistons back in the game. Marcus Morris cut the lead to two with a three-point play with 18 seconds remaining, but Teague's pair of free throws made it 118-114, and neither team scored after that.

Andre Drummond had 18 points and 18 rebounds for Detroit, but he went only 8 of 17 from the free throw line, and the Hawks were more than willing to foul him.

Pelicans 123, Kings 108

In Sacramento, Anthony Davis had 27 points and 14 rebounds, Ryan Anderson scored 21 of his 29 points in the second quarter and New Orleans beat Sacramento to snap a four-game losing streak.

The Pelicans set a season high with 74 points in the first half while completing a four-game sweep of the Kings this season.

Jrue Holiday added 17 points, Tony Douglas scored 11 and newly signed Tim Frazier had a career-high 14 points with nine assists.

Told to cut son's time in clubhouse, LaRoche left White Sox

PHOENIX (AP)—Told to cut down his son's time in the clubhouse, Chicago White Sox first baseman Adam LaRoche took a different path: He said he planned to retire and walk away from a $13 million salary.

White Sox President Kenny Williams confirmed Wednesday that he twice asked LaRoche in the last week to "dial it back" with his 14-year-old son.

Williams said Drake LaRoche was a "quality young kid" and not a distraction. But he indicated he didn't want anything to deter the team's focus this season.

"Sometimes you have to make decisions in this world that are unpopular," Williams said before Chicago played Milwaukee.

The situation quickly bubbled up around spring training and was likely to stir debate beyond the sport. At issue, what's a proper take-your-kid-to-work environment?

No word, yet, on what LaRoche would ultimately do or how the White Sox would fill his spot if he never comes back.

The 36-year-old said Tuesday that he abruptly planned to leave the game. White Sox general manager Rick Hahn termed it a "personal decision" without elaborating and LaRoche was asked to reconsider.

LaRoche drew plenty of support from fellow players. He's is in his second year with the White Sox, his sixth team overall.

"Good for you Roche!" tweeted former teammate Bryce Harper, the reigning National League MVP. "Nothing like father and son in the clubhouse..It's a FAMILY game."

LaRoche knows about that. He grew up in a big league setting, his father and brother both played in the majors.

All over baseball, it's been big league culture to see sons in the clubhouse and on the field with their dads for early pregame practice. Ken Griffey Jr., Cal Ripken Jr. and Prince Fielder are among the many stars who came up that way.

Different teams have had different rules. Some clubs allowed kids in the clubhouse after Sunday games, provided they won.

"On our side of things, I think everyone would say we enjoyed Drake LaRoche in the clubhouse and everything he brought to the clubhouse," White Sox outfielder Adam Eaton said. "He helped out around and wasn't a burden by any stretch of the imagination. He wasn't a big problem last year, either."

"Adam and Drake are probably the most respected people in baseball I ever played with. Drake would clean cleats, he would help out in drills, pick up baseballs when we needed, he didn't say boo to anybody and was never a trouble in the clubhouse," he said.

Said Williams: "I want to be very clear on something. It's not because the young man was a distraction, not because he wasn't well-received or well-liked by players management and everyone else."

"He's a quality, quality young kid that one day might be a heck of a player one day," he added. "Anyway, one of the things we said coming into this season is 'let's check all the columns' with regards to our preparation, our focus to give us every chance to win."

Barcelona beats Arsenal to advance to quarters

BARCELONA, Spain (AP)—Barcelona's big three of Lionel Messi, Luis Suarez and Neymar all scored to beat Arsenal 3-1 on Wednesday, sending the defending champions into the Champions League quarterfinals for a ninth consecutive season with a 5-1 victory on aggregate.

Leading the tie after Messi scored both goals in a 2-0 first leg win, Suarez passed for Neymar to open the scoring in the 18th minute at Camp Nou.

Arsenal's Mohamed Elneny struck in the 51st, and the English side threatened to add another before Suarez answered with an acrobatic goal in the 65th.

Messi chipped in Barcelona's third with two minutes to play following a pair of timely stops by goalkeeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen to protect the lead.

Arsenal coach Arsene Wenger, whose side was eliminated from the round of 16 for a sixth straight year, said Barcelona's strike trio took the game to the level of "art."

"We played against the team with the best strikers I have seen," Wenger said. "The three together are exceptional. Messi is incredible. They are two or three players who transform normal life into art."

Also on Wednesday, Bayern Munich fought back to beat Juventus 4-2 in extra time to advance.

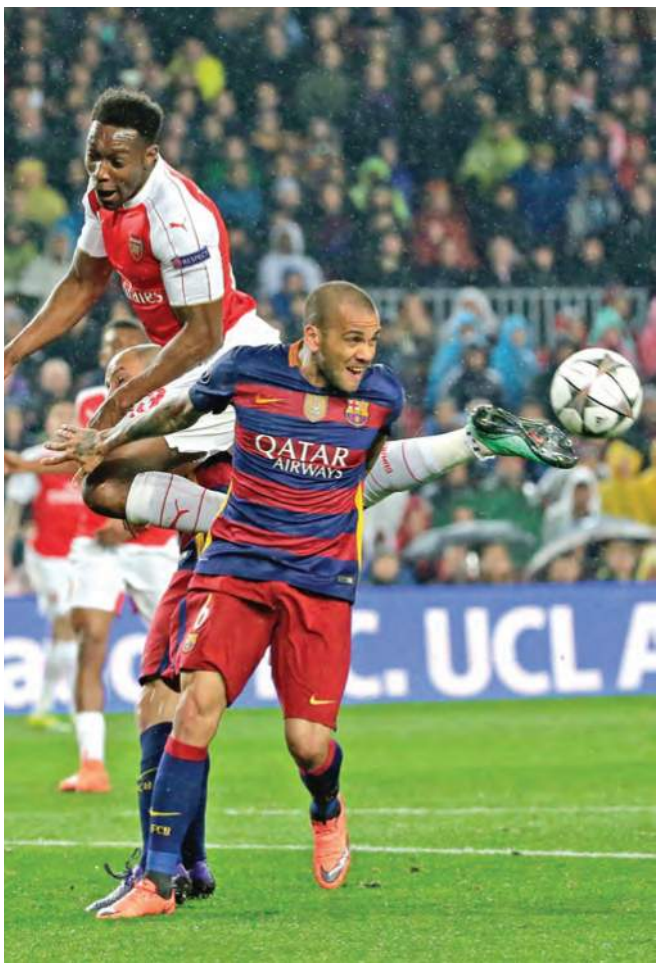
Barcelona increased its Spanish record streak to 38 unbeaten games, and stayed on course to repeat the treble of European Cup, Spanish league and Copa del Rey titles.

While Barcelona's march toward a season end that promises even more silverware, Wenger has seen his side exit two of three competitions this week.

Arsenal bowed out of the FA Cup last weekend and now must focus on catching Tottenham and leader Leicester in the English Premier League standings.

Arsenal midfielder Mesut Ozil took the initiative during Barcelona's subdued start as a light rain came down over the Catalan capital.

But Messi, Neymar and Suarez quickly teamed up to put Barcelona into Friday's draw for the quarterfinals, taking the three's combined tally to 106 goals this season.



AP

Arsenal's Danny Welbeck, left, fights for the ball with Barcelona's Dani Alves during the Champions League Round of 16 second leg soccer match between FC Barcelona and Arsenal FC at the Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona, Spain, Wednesday, March 16, 2016.

Moments after Messi forced an excellent save by goalkeeper David Ospina, it was Suarez who caught Arsenal's backline in disarray. His diagonal pass left Neymar alone to slot a shot under Ospina, who touched the ball but couldn't keep it out.

"They are able to create chances all by themselves, but they also have a great team behind them to put them into the best position," Barcelona coach Luis Enrique said of his three stars. "We are thrilled to have them and to have them providing the first line of pressure."

Arsenal wasn't without its share of possession and shots, just a lack of finishing that kept the visitors without a goal before halftime.

The English side found the net after the restart when Elneny blasted home a first-time strike from the edge of the area after Alexis Sanchez slid him the ball from the right side.

Danny Welbeck almost had a second goal for Arsenal after he appeared to have got the better of Javier Mascherno, only for Barcelona's last defender to recover in time and block his shot.

Suarez responded to the rally with an athletic strike that combined both power and finesse. Eyeing Dani Alves' cross, Suarez leapt, pivoted and struck the ball with his right shin to send it flying into the top corner.

"I don't know what I struck it with, but it went in," Suarez said.

Welbeck went close again with a shot that grazed the upright, and Ter Stegen was forced to make a one-handed save to block Sanchez's free kick before parrying substitute Olivier Giroud's attempt to put in the rebound with 10 minutes to play.

Messi rounded off Barcelona's 10th successive home win the competition when he pounced on a deflected pass before lifting the ball over Ospina.

Barcelona also eliminated Arsenal from the Champions League knockout rounds in 2010 and 2011, after beating them in the 2006 final.

Friday's draw will also feature Atletico Madrid, Benfica, Manchester City, Paris Saint-Germain, Real Madrid and Wolfsburg. Teams from the same country can be drawn together.

NFL remarks on football-brain link come before court ruling

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—The NFL's sudden acknowledgement of a link between football and brain disease comes as a U.S. appeals court prepares to rule on the fairness of a likely $1 billion settlement that excludes future CTE diagnoses.

The NFL filed a letter with the court this week after league official Jeff Miller, senior vice president for health and safety, acknowledged that brain research on deceased players "certainly" shows a link between football and CTE.

"Simply put, Mr. Miller's remarks have no bearing on the pending appeal," NFL lawyer Paul Clement argued in a letter filed late Tuesday. "The NFL has previously acknowledged studies identifying a potential association between CTE and certain football players."

The settlement would affect more than 20,000 retirees, paying $190,000 on average but up to $5 million to young men with severe neurological conditions, such as Lou Gehrig's disease or Parkinson's disease. The NFL has said it expects three out of 10 ex-players to qualify for compensation during their lifetime.

Critics who appealed the settlement believe it should also cover future cases of CTE, or chronic traumatic encephalopathy, which cannot currently be diagnosed until after death. Some believe that Miller's statement lends weight to that position, and they asked the court to consider it in their review.

"To have said anything other than that would have been ridiculous at this point," said Dr. Robert Stein of Boston University, who expects to find a way to diagnose CTE in the living within five to seven years.

The appeals court could ask for briefs on the point, or remand the case back to U.S. District Judge Anita Brody for new findings. But most consider that a long shot.

"I don't think it's going to have very much impact on the settlement," sports law professor Marc Edelman said Wednesday. "The NFL has been very careful to avoid a statement like this until the settlement seemed completed," said sports law professor Marc Edelman.

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Nadal holds off upstart Zverev in 3 sets

INDIAN WELLS, Calif. (AP)—Rafael Nadal rallied from a set down and fought off a match point in the third set to beat Alexander Zverev 6-7 (8), 6-0, 7-5 Wednesday and reach the quarterfinals of the BNP Paribas Open in pursuit of a fourth title.

Zverev, an 18-year-old German ranked 58th in the world and in his second full year on the ATP Tour, blew a 5-2 lead in the third when he was serving for the match leading 5-3, 40-30. He made three straight forehand errors to give Nadal the break.

"I am especially happy about the mentality on court, the spirit of fight during the whole match, believing that I can win a match during the whole time even in the tougher situations," Nadal said.

Novak Djokovic beat Feliciano Lopez 6-3, 6-3 to stay on track for a potential semifinal against Nadal. Kei Nishikori outlasted John Isner 1-6, 7-6 (2), 7-6 (5) and next plays Nadal.

"I'm actually glad to have a match like this with not much complications," said Djokovic, who was pressed in his first two wins.

Serena Williams beat defending champion Simona Halep 6-4, 6-3, punctuating the victory with her seventh ace. Halep has lost to Williams six of the seven times they've played and the Romanian has yet to successfully defend a title in her career. Halep had nine winners to 28 for Williams.

AP

Rafael Nadal, of Spain, reacts while playing Alexander Zverev, of Germany, during the BNP Paribas Open tennis tournament, Wednesday, March 16, 2016, in Indian Wells, Calif.

Williams advanced to the semifinals, where she will play Agnieszka Radwanska, who defeated Petra Kvitova 6-2, 7-6 (3). Radwanska will move up to No. 2 behind Williams in next week's WTA Tour rankings based on making the semis.

"It's unfortunate it can't be a final," Williams said.

Nadal allowed just two points in his last two service games to escape on a day when the men's draw was dominated by younger players beating veterans. David Goffin, a 25-year-old Belgian, defeated No. 3 seed Stan Wawrinka 6-3, 5-7, 7-6 (5) and 25-year-old Canadian Milos Raonic took out No. 6 Tomas Berdych 6-4, 7-6 (7).

Marin Cilic beat No. 8 Richard Gasquet 7-5, 5-7, 6-2 as temperatures reached 91 degrees (32 C) under cloudless skies in the California desert. Cilic next plays Goffin, while Raonic will play Gael Monfils, who beat Federico Delbonis 6-3, 6-4. Delbonis had upset Andy Murray in the third round.

Goffin ended a 14-match skid against top-10 opponents. Zverev has lost all seven meetings against such competition. Cilic hadn't beaten a top-10 player in 1 1/2 years until he dispatched 10th-ranked Gasquet.

Zverev, a son of a former Russian pro player, netted a forehand volley on his lone match point.

'PIKABOO'

From Page 32

ful so I will use my boxing. I am going to use less kicks in case he does want to take me down," Alvarez added.

The Trench Tech fighter dueled Reyes more than two years ago (Aug. 9, 2013) and won via unanimous decision during his debut in PXC (38).

Counting his victory against Reyes, Alvarez holds an 11-3 win-loss record, absorbing his third defeat last year at the hands of Japan's Yutaro Muramoto via unanimous decision in PXC 50.

He will have his first fight of the season and he trained for about three months to prepare for his PXC return after missing PXC 51.

"I've been training and prepping for about three months. I did a lot of boxing and even went to the Philippines for two and a half weeks to critique my striking. I had a great and stress free camp especially since I moved back up to 135lbs," Alvarez said.

"I'm super excited to showcase my upgraded skill set. I'm very confident in my ability to win, I did beat Tony before and although it's been a long time I know I'm still the better fighter. I've trained hard and smart this camp. I know I'll be ready for whatever comes my way at PXC 52. He's a good fighter so I'm excited to have an action-packed fight just like the first time," he added.

Alvarez is one of the two Saipan fighters who will see action in PXC 52. The other one is Jordan Manglona, who will be challenging Scotty Eclavea in the flyweight bout. Manglona is two pounds under the weight-limit after tipping the scale at 123lbs.

Manglona and Alvarez are part of the eight supporting bouts to the main event that will feature Guam's Roque Martinez and Japan's Takaaki Oban for the heavyweight bout. In the semi main event, it will be Guam's Trevin Jones against California's Jeremiah Labiano.

BLUE

From Page 32

they learned to play the sport on Saipan about a decade ago.

"As soon as I heard I was invited to the camp, I was excited and when I officially got the invite I was overjoyed. It has been a dream of mine to play for the island ever since I was a 10-year-old boy watching my mother (Elisa Long) train and play for the very first CNMI Women's National Team," said Griffin, who is a member of the varsity men's soccer team at Georgetown University in Washington, DC.

"Playing for the CNMI is extremely important for me. I want badly to contribute as much as I can to the growth and success of this national team in this summer's upcoming fixtures and beyond. I am honored to be a part of the Blue Ayuyus and am looking ahead to this summer with the positive attitude and determined heart," he added.

Griffin and the rest of the off-island players who joined the camp were impressed with the progress of CNMI football and influx of young players to the national pool.

"Size and speed were the biggest things I saw. Last time I saw some of these guys we were in fifth grade. It was crazy to see some of the kids I played soccer with in elementary school be taller than me and play hard. Everyone had significantly developed their touch as well as play style. It was interesting to observe them and play with everyone," said the Colorado-based Coleman, who played with Joyner, Del Rosario, Barry, Dickinson, and Butcher in youth leagues on Saipan.

Noetzel, who was able to participate in the camp as his pro team in the Philippines is on break, was excited to see a good number of players to choose from and was happy that NMIFA managed to arrange an off-island training camp for the first time and worked on two friendly matches

"The training matches were a major component of the camp, allowing the coaches to evaluate current status and level of the players. It also gives them the freedom to explore other options and formations without dire consequences as would be the case if we were only able to come together at the time of international competitions," the former Blue Ayuyus goalie said.

"The biggest improvement seen is the size of the player pool. The addition of some new players with high-level experience will raise the level of the team and provide greater competition for individual roster spots within the pool of players," he added.

Noetzel and company played against Carlsbad Elite and Internationale' last week and split the two matches. They lost to Carlsbad Elite, 1-2, with Takano scoring the team's lone goal. Jewell, Joyner, and Swaim then had one goal apiece in their 3-2 victory over Internationale'.

"The first match unfortunately we lost but to be fair it was the first time most of us had come together on the same side of the field. The opposition was quality and our effort was not lax. The second match was much better. We won. We had time to come together and had a cohesive philosophy of play. It was a great note to end on and something I'm hoping we can build upon through the summer. As this was the first time I had seen a majority of guys play. I was impressed. Ball movement was fair and communication was there. We have solid players and as I said earlier, the future is bright. I don't expect any regression in our efforts this summer," said Knecht, who is set for another tour of duty with the Blue Ayuyus.

"Any time I have the opportunity to wear the NMI colors, I feel that it is my duty to perform as best as possible. I believe anyone else named to the team should feel the same. I'm always ready for the opportunity and always trying to improve our eventual result. Hopefully, this summer we will make it to the second round and really show the football world what we can do. Nothing but positivity and hard work will make that happen," he added.

Del Rosario couldn't help but agree to his teammates' observations, saying it's every player's dream to play for the national squad and train under a good coach and his former teammates.

"The honor of representing the island and the national team in the sport you love is something that you never really turn down. It's a unique experience," Del Rosario said.

"It was great seeing and playing with players I haven't seen in a long time, especially, under coach Seki's team philosophy and tactics," said Del Rosario, who vows to polish his skills so that he will be ready when he gets another chance to suit up for the Blue Ayuyus.

Sekiguchi will name the final roster for the Blue Ayuyus in June after another training camp in the Philippines. Players who will make the grade will represent the CNMI to the East Asian Football Federation East Asian Cup 2016 Preliminary Round 1. More than 20 players based on Saipan are also gunning for slots on the Blue Ayuyus lineup and training regularly under assistant coach Jersh Angeles.

MPU

From Page 32

In the boys U14 division, MP United, Paire, and Tan Holdings made it to the winners list.

Tan Holdings whipped Shirley's, 9-0, behind the hat-tricks of Mark Esalan and Taka Borja. John Michael Rojas and Austria contributed one goal apiece for Tan Holdings, which got an own goal off Shirley's miscue.

Paire topped Matansa, 4-3, thanks to the two goals apiece of Kaden Church and Raffy Lee. Justin Charles Achas, Razeff Altamirano, and Iverson Santos hit one goal each for Matansa.

MP United downed Kanoa, 3-1, with Ye Seong Cho scoring all three goals for the winning squad. Jhoey Noble recorded the only goal for Kanoa.

In the U12 division, MP United and Kanoa beat their respective foes.

MP United pounded Tan Holdings, 14-4, while Kanoa outclassed Paire, 5-3.

18

From Page 31

beaten in three games with one match left in the five-team field. Rounding out the list are Alma Ortega and Windy Fernandez (3-1), Julie Lee and Erica Jung (2-2), and Rowena Sison and Cheng Saturno (1-2).

In the mixed doubles A, Group B has two qualifiers in Edralin and Savellano, who hold a 4-0 slate, and Galvez and Malou Malasarte (3-1). In Group B, the Pangilinan siblings boosted their semis chances after improving their record to 2-0. Daniel Macario and Choi and Buultjens and Sison are still in contention with their identical 1-2 marks, while Marlene Peraja and Hapi Gabriel are a long shot for a Final Four ticket with their 0-3 card.

In the mixed doubles B, Guerrero and Nicole Malasarte and Oh Im Bog and Sison took the semis berths in Group B after rounding out the elimination with 4-0 and 3-1 slates, respectively. In Group A, Chris Hilario and Fernandez got the first playoff spot after completing the pool play with a 3-1 card.

The playoff format for the events that are divided into two pools are Group A's 1 vs Group B's No. 2 and vice versa, while the other categories will have the following semis pairings: No. 1 vs No. 4 and No. 2 vs No. 3.

LATE

From Page 31

Darwin Barbo, and Brendon Talanio also finished in twin digits with 10 markers each. Chris Estevez was the lone double-figure scorer for BSI with his 13 points.

First Game

Ali'i 79 — Manalo 15, Esdrelon 12, Guiab 10, Barbo 10, Talania 10, Devero 7, Santos 5, Capalad 4, Demapan 4, Fernando 2.

BSI 45 — Esteves 13, Santos 8, Kautz 8, Miranda 8, Postolero 2, Omar 2, Camacho 2, Sabiniano 1, Oyola 1.

Scoring by quarters: 28-11, 46-25, 65-36, 79-45

Second Game

Ol'Aces 102— Basa 22, Pelisamen 17, Lizama 15, Barcinas 14, Villacrusis 10, Pua 5, Libuw 4, Deleon Guerrero 1,

Ballers 79 – Viray 18, Villacrusis 13, Mangali 11, Borja 10, Lilles 8, Dizon 6, Ferrer 4, Paraiso 3, Cortez 2, Sanciangco 2, Tenorio 2.

Scoring by quarters: 21-21, 40-34, 72-61, 102-79.

18 pairs secure playoff seats in IT&E tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Eighteen pairs earned playoff berths in the IT&E Doubles and Mixed Doubles Badminton Competition 2016 after Week 2 matches were completed over the weekend at the TSL Sports Complex.

In the men's AB doubles, Glenn Buultjens and Nathan Guerrero and Andreau Galvez and Rodwealth Espana advanced to the next round after wrapping up the elimination round matches in their respective groups. Buultjens and Guerrero finished Group A with a 3-1 record to bag the first semis ticket, while Galvez and Espana got the similar mark in Group B. Jordan Pangilinan and Joel Ortega are likely to take the other semis slot in Group A as they hold a 2-0 mark, heading into Week 3 games. The duos of Deether Edralin and Ezekiel Macario (1-2) and Daniel Macario and Oh Im Bog (2-1) will battle for the other playoff seat in Group B.

In the men's doubles B, Jun Lee and Joel Ortega own a 3-1 mark and are assured of one of the four playoff spots in the six-team field. There is an open race for the remaining three semis tickets.

In the men's doubles C, only two Final Four tickets are up for grabs as Patrick Fernandez and A.J. Ortega and Henry and Ha Jin Oh have already taken the first two. Ortega and Fernandez are done with their elimination assignment, getting a 3-1 mark in Group A, while Hajin and Henry also hold a 3-1 slate.

In the women's doubles A division is, two have gained entry to the next round with Alma Ortega and Hannah Choi leading the way with their perfect 4-0 mark. Janelle Pangilinan and Jenine Savellano are the other qualifiers, leaving three other pairs to fight for the two remaining semis seats.

In the women's doubles B, the semis cast has been completed. Nicole Malasarte and Loida Ito are among the semifinalists as they are un-

See 18 on Page 30

JON PEREZ
Deether Edralin serves, while Jenine Savellano gets ready during their mixed doubles A game against Macoi Aguda and Lanie Bartolome in the IT&E tournament last Sunday at the TSL Sports Complex.

Late third-quarter surge powers Ol'Aces past Rollers

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Ol'Aces' Joe Villacrusis is fouled by the Ballers' Kenneth Viray during the third quarter of their game in the island-wide men's caging last Tuesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Ol'Aces had an explosive start in the 2016 Island-wide Men's Basketball League following a 102-79 demolition of the Ballers last Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Ol'Aces won their first game in the revived league in a convincing fashion after breaking the Ballers' back late in the third quarter.

The match was still tied at 59-all after the Ballers' Ignacio Borja hit back-to-back baskets before the Ol'Aces countered with a 13-2 scoring spurt in the last two minute and change of the third canto. Two straight triples from Joe Villacrusis and Freddie Pelisamen sparked the surge, while Jack Lizama added 6 points in the final one minute to lift the Ol'Aces to a 72-61 advantage, heading into the fourth period. The Ballers got their two points in the meltdown off Chris Lilles' pair of charities.

The Ballers never recovered from thereon, as the Ol'Aces simply had too many options on offense and continued to find their targets in the final frame.

Preston Basa led six Ol'Aces players who scored in double figures with his 22 points, including 9 from downtown in the third quarter to help his team regain the upper hand after the Ballers grabbed the driver's seat early in the second half. Pelisamen chipped in 17, while Lizama added 15. Dan Barcinas contributed 14, while Villacrusis tallied 10.

Kenneth Viray paced the Ballers with his 18 markers.

Meanwhile, Ali'i prevailed in the opening game in the league after clobbering Best Sunshine International, 79-45.

Ali'i led right at the get-go and was never threatened as it used its balance offense to whip BSI. Manalo Manalo top-scored in Ali'i's easy win, recording 15 points, while Elmer Esdrelon chipped in 12. Junar Guiab,

See LATE on Page 30

Those Guys rules March Madness v-ball tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Those Guys topped the "March Madness" volleyball tournament last Saturday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan sand court.

The winning squad had Nicole LeBlanc, Rob Jordan, Rob Epley and Jeff Elliot as members and the quartet ruled the nine-team field after beating Aloha in the finals, 21-17. Aloha was made up of Alfredo Guevarra, Mike Omar, Charnessa Lizama, and Tony Yamada.

Those Guys was seeded first in the double-elimination playoffs after placing first in Pool B with its 4-0 record. It defeated Sak in its first game, 21-19, routed Lantiyas, 21-4, downed Last Minute, 21-12, and beat Under Dogs, 21-11.

In the playoffs, LeBlanc and her three male teammates kept their unbeaten record, prevailing against Sets on the Beach, 21-3, and Aloha, 21-17, to make it to the semifinals. In the semis, Those Guys was pitted against I'd Hit That and won anew, 21-15, to move into the finals with a twice-to-beat advantage.

With Those Guys getting the first finals ticket, Aloha and I'd Hit That were forced to duel for the second and last finals ticket. Aloha needed to eliminate Lantiyas first, 21-12, to earn the right to challenge I'd Hit That in the loser's bracket semis match. Aloha went on to edge I'd Hit That's, 22-20, to get a second crack at Those Guys.

Aloha was pressured to win against Those Guys twice in the finals to steal the win, but was denied right in Game 1 as the eventual champion retained its perfect record. I'd Hit That, who had Natalie Hill, Sylvia, Dale Roberts, and Steven Beyer as members, settled for third place.

I'd Hit That topped Pool A with its unbeaten 3-0 mark, while Aloha finished second with its 2-1 slate. The and Sets on the Beach registered 1-2 and 0-3 slates, respectively.

Knohlynn Gechig and Amie McRoberts organized "March Madness," which was a fundraising tournament for one of the two high school girls teams that will go to Guam to compete in the Marianas Junior Cup this year.

NMIVA PHOTO
Those Guys and Aloha players pose for a photo after their title match in the "March Madness' volleyball fundraising tournament last Saturday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan sand court.

Warriors stretch home win streak to 50

PAGE 28

Saipan Tribune
Sports

18 pairs secure playoff seats in IT&E tourney

PAGE 31

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Participants in the training camp pose with CNMI coach Kiyoshi Sekiguchi, standing left, and assistant coach Taketomo Suzuki, standing right, before practicing last week in California.

Blue Ayuyus hopefuls ready for call of duty

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Thirteen off-island players completed a training camp in California and expressed their commitment to the CNMI Men's National Team.

"The camp was done successfully. I am happy to know our players level and found some new talented young players," said CNMI coach and Northern Mariana Islands Football Association technical director Kiyoshi Sekiguchi, who facilitated the March 9 to 13 training camp with the help of assistant coach Taketomo Suzuki.

Former Blue Ayuyus Nick Swaim, Kirk Schuler, Johann Noetzel, Lucas Knecht, Michael "Bo" Barry, Jehn Joyner, Jonathan Takano, Ethan Dickinson, and Enrico Del Rosario attended the camp along with former Saipan youth players Mickey Coleman, Hunter Jewell, and Michah Griffin, and men's league standout Darin Kaizer.

Coleman and Griffin are both honored to get a chance to play for the Commonwealth since

See BLUE on Page 30

'Pikaboo' all set for rematch vs Reyes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Trench Tech's Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez will be gunning for another win as he collides with Guam's Tony Reyes in tonight's Pacific Xtreme Combat 52 at the University of Guam Calvo Field House.

Alvarez will have a rematch against Reyes in the bantamweight division after the former's original foe—Emilio Urrutia of Miami—got injured.

"My original opponent got injured so now I'm set to face the very first guy I fought in PXC, Tony Reyes. I beat him last time on the feet by out striking him, so he may want to take me down this time around," said Alvarez on the eve of his fight and after making the 135lb-weight limit in yesterday's official weigh-in.

"I know my hands are much quicker and power-

See 'PIKABOO' on Page 30

PXC 52 PHOTO
Trench Tech's Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez poses for a photo during yesterday's weigh-in for the Pacific Xtreme Combat 52 that will be held tonight at the University of Guam Calvo Field House. He will face Tony Reyes in a bantamweight bout.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MP United's Edwin Kim tries to keep his balance after stealing the ball from a Kanoa player during their boys U17 game in the NMIFA youth league last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

MPU, Tan Holdings shut down U17 foes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MP United and Tan Holdings cruised to victories after blanking their respective opponents in the U17 division games in the 2016 NMIFA Youth Spring League last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

MP United played in the curtain-raiser in the division and crushed Kanoa, 8-0, while Tan Holdings outclassed Paire in the second match, 2-0.

Hyun Jun Chung starred in MP United's rout of Kanoa as he scored a hat-trick. Edwin Kim, James Kim, Sunjoon Tenorio, Kevin Park, and Michael Lee added one goal apiece.

In the Tan Holdings-Paire tiff, Thaiphi Austria and Alan Hinson knocked in one goal each for the former.

With their wins, Tan Holdings improved to a 2-0-2 win-draw-loss record for third place, while MP United got a 3-0-1 mark, the similar slate idle Matansa holds. However, Matansa has more goals than MP United, 14-12, to win the tiebreak for first place. Paire is at the bottom of the team standings with its 1-0-3 card.

In other results last weekend, Matansa, Kanoa, and Paire prevailed in the girls U15 matches over at the San Antonio Middle School Field.

Matansa defeated MP United, 5-1, behind the three goals of Jannah Casarino. Sunny Woo and Lyka Sally chipped in one goal each for Matansa, while Maaya Sato tallied the lone goal for MP United.

In the second game, Kanoa dislodged Shirley's from the top spot after scoring a 4-2 upset. Kanoa, which now has a 4-0-1 mark against Shirley's 3-0-1, got three goals from Britanny Wally and one from Paulyn Grace Joyce. Mia Carreon posted the two goals for Shirley's.

In the third game, Guinevere Borja suited up for Paire for the first time and powered her team to a 2-1 victory

Borja registered the two goals for Paire to hand her squad its first win this season. Nicole Lumbad earned the lone goal for Tan Holdings.

See MPU on Page 30